

The Middlebury Campus

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Wednesday, February 21, 2007

Since 1905



Courtesy

Guster, a major force in the alternative rock scene, will include the College in their 'Campus Consciousness' tour.

Guster to play spring concert

By Melissa Marshall
ARTS EDITOR

Guster will headline the Middlebury College Activity Board's (MCAB) spring concert on April 27 after an opening by up-and-coming indie band The Format, according to MCAB officers. The Spring Concert will be a part of Guster's Campus Consciousness Tour, a project sprouting from the environmental non-profit Reverb, founded by Guster guitarist Adam Gardner and his wife Lauren Sullivan.

The selection of Guster, a popular New England alternative rock trio,

represented a safe choice by MCAB to please a broad range of student tastes, and inclusion in the Campus Consciousness tour offered a nod to Middlebury's green leanings. The environmentally friendly Campus Consciousness tour travels via biodiesel tour buses, uses rechargeable batteries for instruments, recycles and offsets concerts by purchasing wind power.

Guster, a major force in the alt-rock scene during the nineties with such successful albums as *Goldfly* and *Lost and Gone Forever*, has survived today's internet-savvy culture where bands achieve overnight star-

dom and fade just as quickly.

"Guster is the kind of band that has staying power," said Sam Jesse '07, MCAB Concert Chair, who noted the band had played at Middlebury five years ago and was due for a

SEE MCAB, PAGE 16

Committee advises 5.5 percent fee hike

By Brian Fung
NEWS EDITOR

Members of the Student Comprehensive Fee Committee recommended raising next year's comprehensive fee to \$46,768 in a presentation before the Board of Trustees last Saturday. While the official amount approved by the Trustees will not be announced for several weeks, the student Committee's recommendations have in previous years closely predicted the Trustees' final number.

With the recommended fee increase, the Committee planned funding for several components of the College's Strategic Plan that enjoy heavy student support, including the Carbon Neutrality Initiative (CNI) and the gradual addition of 25 new faculty.

"This year, we decided to take a more theoretical approach, and as such, placed the greatest emphasis on student priorities," wrote Amanda Goodwin '07, chair of the Committee, in an e-mail.

President of the College Ron-

ald D. Liebowitz remarked that the Committee's focus paralleled the interests of the College.

"What was heartening," said Liebowitz, "was that a lot of things came through from the [presentation] that very much mirrored the priorities of the strategic plan."

The presentation was accompanied by a 12-page report, entitled "Lifelong Participation," issued to trustees two weeks before Saturday's meeting. The report outlined the Committee's suggestions and strategies for increasing student commitment to the College from their arrival as first-years until well after their graduation.

The Student Comprehensive Fee Committee proposed to increase the level of alumni contributions overall, beginning with the Class of 2007, to close the gap between comprehensive fee revenues and the actual cost of a Middlebury education.

"[This year], the cost of educating each student was approxi-

SEE TRUSTEES, PAGE 2

Record snowfall blindsides VT

By Zamir Ahmed
NEWS EDITOR

A Valentine's Day blizzard that paralyzed states from the Midwest to Northeast forced the College to officially close down on Feb. 15, canceling classes and instructing all non-essential staff to stay home. The cancellation of classes marked the College's first forced closure since January 1998, when a massive ice storm struck New England.

Last week's storm, which began around 2 a.m. Wednesday morning, led some percipient professors to cancel classes early on at their discretion. By late afternoon, faculty and staff across campus were shutting down facilities and leaving to escape the snowfall before being snowed in. A midday all-campus e-mail from President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz encouraged supervisors to send home those staff not providing essential services.

The College was initially scheduled to open late at 10 a.m. on Thursday, canceling early morning classes, but continued heavy snowfall and massive snowdrifts created by high winds pre-



Ilhan Kim

Record snowfall on Feb. 14 ruined Valentine's Day plans for many, and caused the College to cancel classes for the first time since January 1998.

vented snow removal crews from adequately clearing roads and pathways. Shortly after midnight, Liebowitz announced in another e-mail that the College would be closed for business on Feb. 15.

"My decision to take such action came after much discussion with folks on the ground — staff managers — who had to assess

SEE BLIZZARD, PAGE 3

Top applicants to get free visit

By Tom Brant
NEWS EDITOR

In an effort to more effectively recruit highly qualified applicants, the Admissions Office will soon begin notifying more than a hundred top applicants to the Class of 2011 of their likely acceptance and offer them a free trip to Middlebury, Dean of Admissions Robert Clagett

announced at a faculty meeting on Monday. The plan to attract "truly fabulous" students follows a major increase in application numbers, from roughly 6,200 last year to nearly 7,200 this year, and an overall rise in the number of top applicants.

"They are some of the most sought after students in the country," Clagett told the faculty about

the students who would be brought to Middlebury. "We want to show them what they can do here at Middlebury College."

The free visits, which will be funded by the Office of College Advancement, will become part of a process begun last year that noti-

SEE FREE, PAGE 3



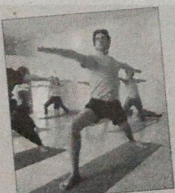
Albert Bitici

FORGET WINTER'S BLAH, THE CARNIVAL IS HERE

This weekend's Winter Carnival is not all about the Ball, the ice show or comedian Owen Smith. On Friday and Saturday, skiers will compete in NCAA Nordic and alpine qualifiers at Bread Loaf and the Snow Bowl.

this week

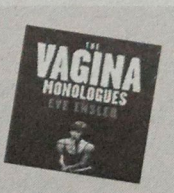
get your stretch on
Want to get yourself into a twist?
Otter Creek Yoga will show you
how it's done, page 6



staying alive (and warm)
Keep yourself warm when winter
shows its frigid side with our
survival guide, page 11



a night of feminism
Read the review of the annual
production of the "Vagina
Monologues," page 18



middbriefs

by Tom Brant and Derek Schlickeisen

Relay for Life aims high with fundraising goals

The second kickoff event for the College's Relay for Life was held Feb. 17 in McCullough Social Space. The event raised awareness about the relay and other related events, all of which benefit the American Cancer Society (ACS).

As of Feb. 19, participants had raised a total of \$7,288 dollars, according to the Middlebury Relay for Life Web site, with a final goal set at \$220,000 to be raised at this year's Relay. The event raised over \$198,000 last year. Nationwide, Relay for Life events raise about \$1 million a day for cancer related causes.

Currently, 36 teams have registered for Middlebury's Relay for Life. The first place team had raised \$955 as of Monday.

The College's Relay for Life, organized by co-chairs Alex Braunstein '09 and Chandler Koglmeier '09, will be held April 20-21. Last year, the event raised over \$80 dollars per student, the most money per capita raised by any youth event in the country.

Rights activist to speak at energy conference

On Feb. 27 in Dana Auditorium, a College symposium on energy independence will feature a keynote address by Van Jones, human rights activist and founder of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights in Oakland, Calif.

Jones will discuss challenges facing energy independence and social justice.

"Van has a powerful message to spread," said organizer David Dolginow '09. "He believes that green collar jobs can unite the country to overcome global warming while also fighting against poverty."

Jones has won numerous awards for his efforts in the areas of social and environmental responsibility, including the Reebok International Human Rights Award, the Ashoka Fellowship and the Rockefeller Foundation "Next Generation Leadership" Fellowship.

The symposium is organized by the college's chapter of the Roosevelt Institution and the Sunday Night Group.

Creativity gets boost from new alum grant

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz announced on Monday a program to encourage students to pursue creative and innovative projects beyond their academic work. Funded by a grant from Middlebury alumnus Rory Riggs '75, the program will rely on the support of interested faculty members who wish to serve as advisers for the student projects.

"The initiative is likely to take shape, first, as a series of campus-wide competitions for which students will compete, through self-assembled teams, to solve specific challenges for tangible rewards," said Liebowitz in an e-mail.

The announcement from Liebowitz comes after 18 months of reviewing other colleges' efforts to support student creativity and consulting with students and faculty.

"This program seeks to supplement what our students learn in class with opportunities to enrich their out-of-class experience," said Riggs.

Corrections

A letter to the editor about campus social life lost its signature in formatting. The letter was by Jessica Weiss '08.

An op-ed by Chandler Koglmeier misspelled the name of Assistant Professor of History Amy Morsman.

The Campus regrets these errors.

Public Safety to improve safety lighting

By Polly Johnson
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

An annual \$50,000 budget line-item has been allocated for Facilities Services to upgrade and expand outdoor lighting, safety "blue lights" and emergency phones along isolated or remote campus pathways, in an effort to improve nighttime safety on campus. The specific allocation of the money will be determined following the next Walk in the Dark, an informal nighttime walk that pinpoints particularly remote areas of the campus and assesses specific areas of concern.

"We're trying to identify the most important areas first," said Lisa Boudah, Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Director of Public Safety.

Boudah said that since she came to the College in 2000, she has made the implementation of emergency phones and blue lights a priority. Consultants working with the College's Master Plan have been hired to aid in the development of nighttime safety measures.

The most recent walk to identify problem areas took place on Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. and included Associate Vice President of Facilities Susan Personette, as well as a number of students, off-campus consultants and members of the faculty and staff.

Sarah Moberg '07, a member of Feminist Action at Middlebury (FAM), was the only student to participate in the most recent Walk in the Dark, which, along with

meetings with students last fall, pinpointed Adirondack View, Ridgeline, the path from Ross to Freeman International Center (FIC), Battell Hall to FIC, the paths through the Voter lawn to McCullough Student Center, the path from the New Library to the Center for the Arts (CFA), the area around Johnson Memorial Building and the lower-level restrooms in Ross and Atwater Dining Halls all as areas of concern.

Boudah said that since 2000, the establishment and expansion of phones and lights "has been an ongoing process," and that the night walks have happened regularly. "Members of FAM and the Student Government Association (SGA), as well as individual students, faculty and staff have all participated."

Boudah listed the areas around Twilight Hall, McCardell Bicentennial Hall and the Voter lawn as the current areas under review and the next places where phones will be installed. Referring to the phones already in place near campus residence halls, Boudah said she was also looking at expanding that network to other buildings.

"The next phase is looking at locations where blue lights can be added to phones on residence halls," said Boudah.

While there are many phones scattered throughout the campus, many of them are not currently visible. One major problem area is Adirondack View, which is currently lit by town, not College, lighting. Both Boudah and Moberg mentioned the overgrown vegetation on the road, which makes the area feel even more cramped.

The proposal of additional lighting, however, brings concerns about light pollution. Boudah pointed out, for instance, that certain classes require unobstructed views of the night sky. Any lights that point directly into the sky could conceivably emit too much light.

Personette, who could not be reached at the time of press, was quoted as saying that the passing of the budget "formalizes our ability to support improvements to our security infrastructure."

Research as to how the \$50,000 will be allocated is ongoing, Boudah said, noting that herself and the planners need to "evaluate and make sure that they money is spent as appropriately as possible."



Tom Brant

The Department of Public Safety will install more "blue lights" across campus to improve nighttime lighting. According to Public Safety, current blue lights are few and far between.

Trustees commit to SNG initiative

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

mately \$73,000," read the report. "However, this figure was offset by [only] \$28,000 in generating the Comprehensive Fee."

Much of the difference, said Goodwin, is compensated by a "hidden scholarship," comprised of donations from parents and alumni.

To encourage giving from this year's graduating seniors, the senior class gift committee established a "Green Fund" to appeal to active student interest in environmental affairs. The fund would support future student-coordinated environmental projects such as those launched by the Sunday Night Group (SNG).

Goodwin recommended that SNG's MidShift movement be included in the College's budget as a line item. If the proposal is passed, MidShift will be officially acknowledged as a College-supported initiative.

"This approach formally institutionalizes [respectful] environmental behavior and carbon neutrality, specifically," said Goodwin.

In addition to the possibility of bringing CNI into the College budget, the student committee investigated other, less conventional environmental solutions. Goodwin com-

mended the Trustees' approval of a biomass facility designed to provide an alternative to fossil fuel combustion.

"By burning woodchips rather than fuel oil," said the committee report, "the College will be able to meet its carbon reduction goals as defined under the Middlebury Carbon Reduction Initiative of 2002."

In conjunction with the committee's green recommendations, SNG delivered its own presentation to the Trustees explaining CNI in greater depth.

"In having the Trustees officially endorse carbon neutrality," said Caitlin Littlefield '07.5, one of several SNG members at the closed-door lecture, "we can really get the ball

rolling, because this is not going to be a cost-free process."

SNG hopes to achieve total carbon-neutrality at the College by 2016. According to both

Goodwin and Littlefield, the plan to enact CNI will likely be developed through a three-stage process.

Statistics show that student support for carbon-neutrality continues to run strong. In a campus-wide survey conducted by the Student Comprehensive Fee Committee, 67% of respondents approved or strongly approved of a \$36 addition to the comprehensive fee that would go towards offsetting the College's

carbon footprint.

In addition to assessing students' opinions on the growing green movement, the committee surveyed attitudes regarding other campus concerns as well. According to the report, financial aid and faculty were among the top priorities expressed by the 430 responses the committee received.

The Student Comprehensive Fee Committee recommended the expansion of funding to both categories in its presentation to the Trustees. The proposed 5.5-percent increase in the comprehensive fee next year would cover a six-percent increase in financial aid packages, while boosting faculty salaries by 5.8 percent.

Furthermore, Goodwin suggested adding 25 members to the number of professors currently teaching at the College. The majority of these additions would likely be distributed evenly across College departments, though the committee drew particular attention to the Departments of Economics, Arabic and Spanish.

"Faculty expansion will help broaden and standardize course offerings," read the committee report, "and decrease class sizes that have become increasingly inflated."

The Board of Trustees will be deliberating the recommendations made by SNG and the Student Comprehensive Fee Committee until its next convention in May. According to President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz, the meetings with student groups confirmed that the College is on the right track.

"It was nice to hear," said Liebowitz. "[Their] ideas are central to what we're doing already. Furthermore, he said, "The priorities work with where we are as an institution... and are consistent with the Strategic Plan."

Free visits will supplement 'likely' letters

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

fied top applicants of their likely admission to Middlebury and put them in contact with professors in their fields of interest. This year, using the admissions ranking system developed with the strategic plan, Claggett said there was a 50 percent increase over last year in the number of applicants receiving the top rating, and one percent was identified as containing the top students who will receive free trips.

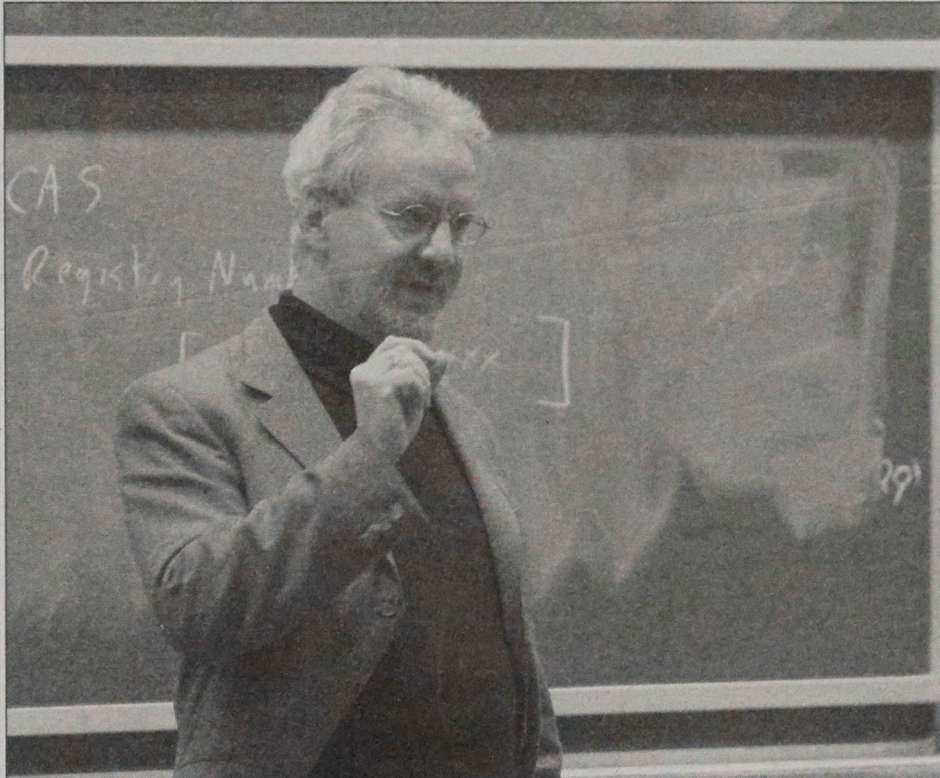
"We have just finished identifying the 101 truly fabulous, slam-dunk, no-brainer, great applicants in the regular decision pool whom we want to attract in increasing numbers to enroll at Middlebury," said Claggett.

In a few weeks, the admissions office will send "likely letters" and encourage them to consider choosing the College.

"They will be getting personalized letters saying, 'You are fabulous. You should be congratulated for having such a great career in your secondary school, and you have every reason to believe that you're going to be getting very good news from us in March,'" said Claggett. "We're trying not to be too coy about it."

The letters will begin a cultivation of these students with involvement from both professors and current students.

"We need many of you to help us get these students," said Claggett, who asked faculty to help by actively corresponding and meeting with the high-schoolers, and by introducing



Ilhan Kim

Dean of Admissions Bob Claggett explains the addition of free campus visits to the recruiting program started last year for academically excellent students at Monday's faculty meeting.

likely-accepts to Middlebury students who share their interests.

Last year, 15 percent of applicants who received the early letters and correspondence with faculty decided to enroll.

"It wasn't bad but it's not something to be satisfied with," said Claggett. "We'd love to get 25, 30, even 35 percent or more of those students enrolled."

The visits are scheduled for April 5-6, and Claggett said he estimates that about 15 students will accept the invitation to come to campus. The visit will be specially tailored to the students' academic interests, and they will have the opportunity to not only meet with faculty members but also with juniors and seniors who are doing research projects in their areas of interest.

Faculty Update: Topics discussed at Monday's Faculty Meeting

• Susan Campell will be returning as Dean of Faculty in the fall to complete the last year of her three-year term.

• Carol Rifelj has returned this spring as Dean for Faculty development.

• In the College's Master Plan, focus will be shifted away towards improvements of non-Commons buildings on campus.

• The Faculty Council is developing a policy on student-faculty sexual relationships.

Blizzard catches Northeast off-guard

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

whether they could make the campus safe for faculty, staff and students who had to drive, park and walk on campus," wrote Liebowitz in an e-mail explaining his decision. "As late as midnight I was told that would not be possible, and therefore [made the] decision."

Despite the College not officially opening for business, all three dining halls opened for students on Feb. 15. The dining halls were able to operate normally after eight dining services staff members spent the night sleeping on couches in the dining halls.

The blizzard dumped a near-record amount of snow on the state after what had been an unusually mild winter season. Twenty-five inches of snow fell at Burlington International Airport, the second-highest snowfall ever recorded there, while some areas of Vermont reported over three feet of snow, according to CNN.

The Snow Bowl received over 30 inches of snow from the storm, allowing the ski area to open all its front side trails for the first time this season. The back side of the Snow Bowl also received enough snow to open for the first time this year, letting skiers down its wooded trails starting on Feb. 17.

"We certainly saw an influx of students on Thursday," said Peter Mackey, manager of the Snow Bowl. "It took three buses to get everyone back to town, if that's any indication. This past weekend was one of the busiest in many, many years. There was obviously some pent-up demand."

The deep snowfall and high winds created a number of safety hazards for local residents. The Middlebury Fire Department received multiple calls during the night to local apartment buildings as snowdrifts blocked vent heaters, filling buildings with carbon monoxide and causing residents to be sent to areas hospitals for treatment.

Blowing snow and snow-packed roads also created a problem for local residents. Some parking lots and roads around campus were impassable, with high drifts snow-

ing in parked cars, while other cars on the road became stuck due to the heavy snowfall. Emergency vehicles were not immune to the problem, as a number of vehicles skidded off roads or became stuck on unplowed roads.

While the College has general emergency plans in place to deal with crisis situations such as snowstorms, the magnitude of the Valentine's Day blizzard presented problems that the plans did not adequately cover.

"The size of the storm, and the impact of what was the largest single 24-hour amount of snow to fall on central Vermont, revealed holes in our planning and assumptions," said Liebowitz. "That said, our staff did remarkable work to ensure both safety and services that were essential for students."

According to Liebowitz, the College plans on using the problems presented by the Feb. 14 blizzard to work on fixing holes in the emergency procedures to better combat future storms.

"We will debrief in full, collect examples of what worked and did not work and ensure, even if we are talking about 'Storms of the Century,' we will be better prepared in the future," said Liebowitz. "One cannot always anticipate what will come, but we could certainly be better prepared to help our staff deal with the challenges."

The College reopened on Feb. 16. This month's Board of Trustees meeting took place as planned on Feb. 16-18, with trustees arriving on campus on Friday morning.



Ilhan Kim

Twenty-five inches of snow fell at Burlington International Airport Feb. 14, the second-highest snowfall ever recorded there. On campus, many cars were still snow-bound days after the storm.



overseas briefing

International relations in the produce aisle

by James Kerrigan

PRAGUE — America has got a lot of things figured out, but not everything. I grew up going to the Hanover Co-op, our neighborhood grocery store which doubled as the gossip headquarters for local mothers. It had just about everything one could want, but after one trip to Albert, the Czech Republic's take on Shaw's, it is clear American supermarkets have room for improvement.

Once I calmed down after paying the 10 Korun (the Czech currency) deposit for a shopping cart, I was taken aback by the quality of these four-wheeled hovercrafts. Full mobility in all directions revolutionized my shopping experience. They can navigate the narrow aisles with ease. Sticky American wheels were replaced with an engineering marvel — fully pivoting wheels which roll even more smoothly than a Pilsner Urquell goes down. The Co-op has work to do.

Equally impressive was the breadth in the produce section. Pictures rivaling those that appear on the pages of a language textbook facilitated the process but did not solve all my problems. The printer could barely handle the speed at which I weighed my fruits and vegetables, reminiscent of the between-class rush at the first floor printers in the New Library. As it turns out, pomegranate is a false cognate. The oranges were delicious, anyway.

Though there was a decidedly large language barrier, judging by the speed at which shoppers completed their visits to Albert and the hard-hat wearing customer base, it is safe to say recent college acceptance letters were not the topic of conversation as I am certain it is at my grocery store over 4,000 miles away.

The journey through Albert grew more difficult as a lack of recognizable brands forced our purchasing decisions to be based on more primal methods. I resembled an eager child shaking presents on Christmas Eve. Besides some unfortunate mistakes in the baking aisle, my first trip to Albert was, by and large, a success. I anticipate Albert and I will have a healthy relationship over the next four months.

I am not as confident about the status of Czech-American relations. Perceptions of other countries develop in many different ways. Case in point: last night.

Late night tram stops produce many interesting scenarios, but this one was particularly meaningful. A group of American friends and I engaged an older Czech man in a conversation about the United States. As we began to pester him about why he had negative feelings towards Americans, he responded that we do not have a respect for money. The group of young Americans quickly tried to rebut his point, but our efforts only lasted a few seconds. Shortly thereafter, a slightly intoxicated American yelled across the street to one of his friends, "Hey, get me a gyro!" If his words were not enough, he pulled out all the change in his pocket and hurled it across the street.

In just 15 seconds, this Czech man confirmed his belief about Americans. Simple gestures go a long way in shaping opinions. Blaming Bush or some other exogenous circumstance is not enough. So next time I pull out of the pet food aisle, I will be sure to look both ways, and learn the Czech word for "sorry."

college shorts

by Ben Salkowe, Editor-in-Chief

University of Wisconsin to require drug testing

The University of Wisconsin-Stout will require all 100 of its Division III football players to undergo drug testing this spring for commonly abused drugs, and will randomly test 25 players for steroid use, the *Associated Press* (AP) reported last week.

"The point is to make sure that when athletes step on the field from here on in they will be drug free and everybody can be assured of that," University Spokesman Doug Mell told the AP.

The new policy came from a committee formed in December after police seized three bottles of liquid steroids and other drugs from the off-campus home of the football team's senior linebacker, according to the AP. The police later found more steroids and marijuana at the home of the team's junior linebacker. Another player who had left the team was arrested for selling cocaine.

All three students charged with drug abuse have pled not guilty, but the controversy has led to the resignation of the school's football coach and two of his assistants.

—The Associated Press

Shower sex at Yale raises voices and eyebrows

"Well THIS is the most awkward college-wide e-mail I've ever had to send," started a recent announcement sent to Yale students and obtained by IvyGate, an Ivy League news blog.

"Several times since the start of the spring term [students] have come across a couple having the time of their lives in a shower stall," wrote Jonathan Holloway, a Yale College master, after shower fun led to flooding in the dorm. "To the as yet unidentified couple, this may be pleasureable and exciting for you but it is a violation of community standards. Please stop."

Whether or not Yale was their inspiration, there were reports last week that Ivy League sex had entered a new dorm space: an e-mail published by IvyGate on Thursday chastised Brown freshmen for reports of kitchen sex.

"I have been made aware that there has been some activity taking place in Perkins' kitchens that is inappropriate for public spaces," wrote an unnamed graduate student to Brown's Perkins dormitory. "An appropriate place for certain activities would be your room with the door shut, at the discretion of your roommate."

—IvyGate.com

Pomona's growth plans spark heated controversy

Plans to expand Pomona College's student body have ignited a campus-wide debate, according to *The Pomona Student Life*. The proposal under discussion, which would require the construction of two new dorms and the hiring of new faculty, would expand Pomona by 10 percent to 1,650 students over the next four years.

Yet students who chose the Southern California college for its tight-knit campus community worry Pomona could be risking its distinctive feel.

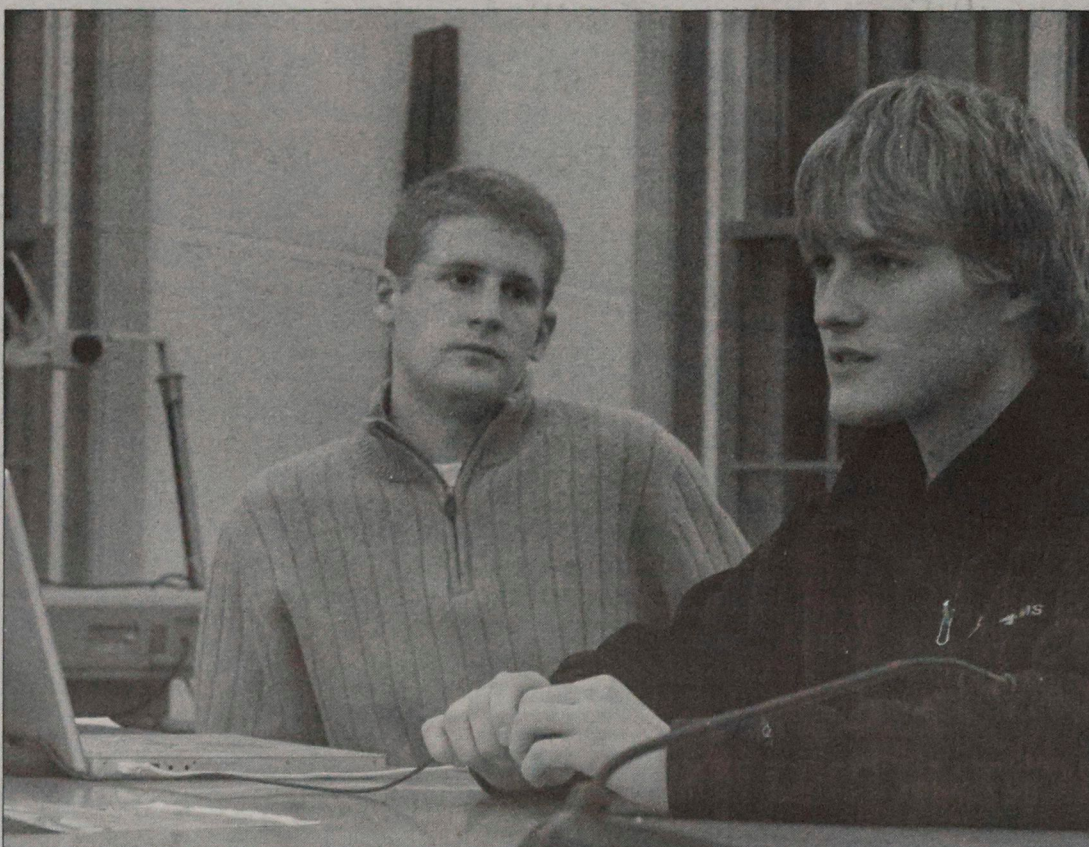
"The small size of Pomona is part of its draw," Pomona senior Ben White told *The Student Life*. "The larger it gets, the more impersonal it gets."

A survey of 181 faculty members conducted by the student newspaper found only 29.3 percent of faculty "agreed" with the proposal, while 43.2 percent "disagreed."

The Pomona College Board of Trustees will continue to discuss the proposal. A decision is not expected before fall 2007.

—The Pomona Student Life

SPEAKING OF SPEAKING...



Ilhan Kim

Presiding over the Feb. 19 meeting of the Student Government Association (SGA), SGA President Alex Stanton '07 and Brainerd Commons Senator Chester Harvey '09 lead the discussion about a new public speaking initiative for the curriculum. The SGA voted to support a measure by Sophomore Senator Catherine Hylas that would mandate that students fulfill a public speaking requirement before they graduated and created a committee to look into its implementation. The group deliberated ideas regarding the requirement, debating whether the public speaking requirement should take the form of a writing course requirement or resemble a physical education requirement that would be fulfilled extracurricularly.

Students alerted to Tavern assault

By Derek Schlickeisen
NEWS EDITOR

Two men are alleged to have assaulted a female student late Friday night at Brackett House (Tavern), according to a campus-wide crime alert sent by the Department of Public Safety on Monday evening.

The assault, described as a sex offense in the alert, took place after the victim asked one of the men standing in the hallway outside of her dorm room for assistance, according to Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah. The man in question and a "more muscular" companion then led the victim back into her room and assaulted her before fleeing the scene.

Though the crime alert included few details regarding the incident and described the assailants only as white males with brown hair, Boudah explained that Public Safety hoped it

would lead to more facts in the case.

"We are hoping that in revealing this information, even though it now seems limited or unhelpful, either members from the community or members of Tavern who have information will come forward," she said.

Other details were intentionally left out of the alert, according to Boudah, as a result of the investigation's sensitive and ongoing nature.

"It's a continuing investigation," she said. "We have a responsibility to notify the community when a serious crime occurs. We can't reveal all the details because it could affect the outcome of the investigation, and we need to maintain privacy."

The College's official reaction to these allegations mirrors its response to an alleged assault that occurred last April at Delta House. That incident, which involved an assault on

one female student and an attempted assault on another, produced little in the way of publicly-available information until formal charges were filed late last month. Delta House suffered a one-year suspension penalty following the allegations of assault and violations of the College's alcohol policy.

In the meantime, Boudah stressed, the College will make an effort to educate students about protecting themselves at parties and other events.

"We are planning to send out more information about things to be mindful of when going out at night," she said, "like setting limits, drinking responsibly, and letting friends know where you are and who you'll be with during the night. Students need to understand that even with the best planning and safety strategies, there are always people who will create problems."

public safety log

February 12 - February 20, 2007

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
2/16/2007	10:10 a.m.	Vandalism	Graffiti	Pearsons	Referred to Commons Dean
2/17/2007	12:53 a.m.	Vandalism	Lights	Hadley	Referred to Commons Dean
2/17/2007	1:30 a.m.	Sex Offense	—	Brackett (Tavern)	Open

The Department of Public Safety reported giving four alcohol citations between Feb. 12 and Feb. 20.

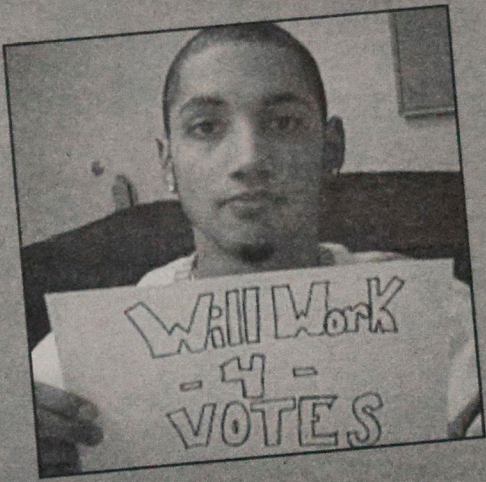
The Middlebury Campus

SEEKS STAFF WRITERS FOR
ALL EDITORIAL DEPARTMENTS.

NEW WRITER MEETING TODAY
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 AT 6 P.M.
IN MUNROE LECTURE HALL

Meet your SGA senate candidates

Before you complete your ballot, take a moment to learn a bit about this semester's candidates by perusing *The Campus'* pre-election guide.



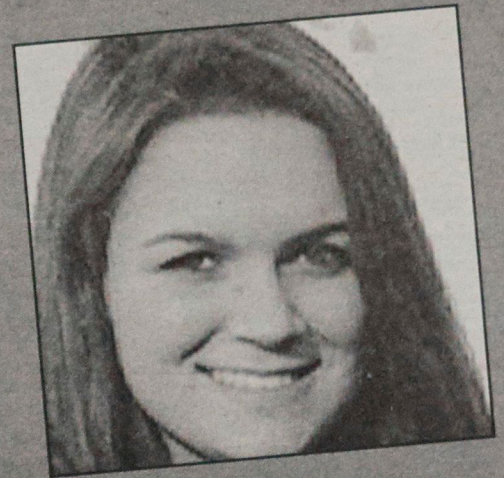
Bobby Joe Smith III
Wonnacott Senator

"It's the little things in life that make a big difference. As Wonnacott Commons Senator, I plan to focus on the little things that can be accomplished in the near future, while diligently tackling the tough policy issues that require the time and negotiation necessary to be handled correctly. We can work together to continuously improve this great college."



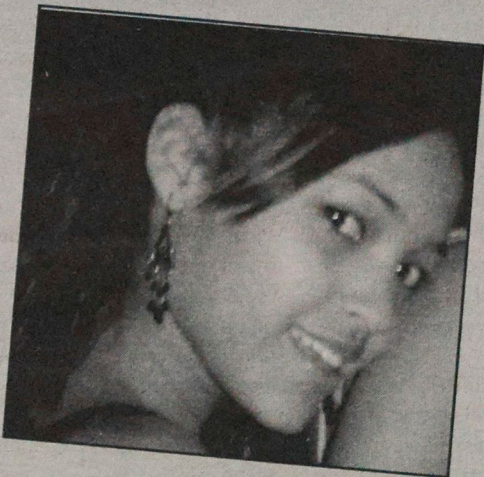
Laura Kasprzyk
First-Year Feb Senator

"I am so excited to be here at Middlebury and I will do everything I can to best represent our class and Feb interests on the SGA. I am not intimidated by new situations and I will jump right into work on the SGA to best serve Febs. I encourage all of you to get online and vote this Thursday for leadership that is accessible, fair and inclusive."



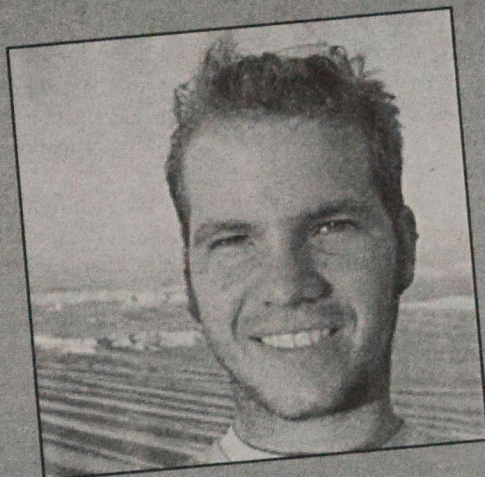
Emily Stephens
First-Year Feb Senator

"I believe myself to be very approachable, open and friendly, and know that if I am elected, I will work for you and the changes that you want to see on campus. I will help lead our class towards defining common goals, building group unity and forging an identity within the larger circle of the Middlebury community."



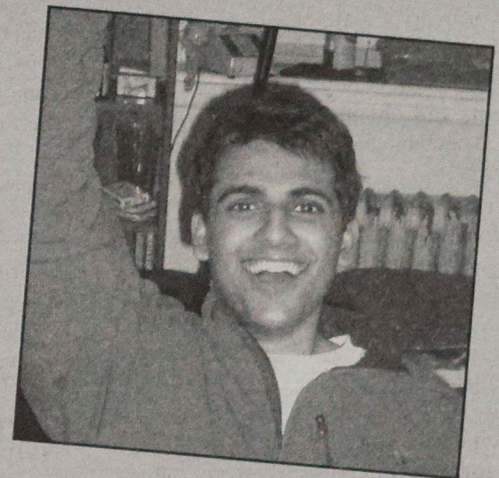
Julisa Salas
Wonnacott Senator

"I intend to revitalize the spirit of Wonnacott. Our community must be fortified through the amicable bond that naturally exists by being in Wonnacott. With the help of my fellow peers, I believe I can strengthen and bridge the gap found amongst the grades. Active participation from every member of Wonnacott will help increase the quality of life in every respect."



Austen Levihn-Coon
Junior Half-Year Senator

"As a senator I will push for the transparency of SGA spending, especially through the disclosure of finance committee allocations. I thoroughly promote student access to project and arts facilities. As a senator I will promote the creation and maintenance of more facilities open to all students such as a wood shop, print shop and other work facilities and tools."



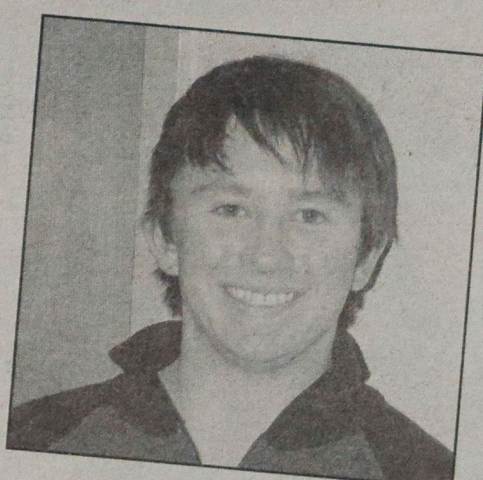
Ashwin Gargeya
Junior Half-Year Senator

"We do have the power to make decisions to benefit us, and with me as your senator, we can make small changes that will let the school truly be a reflection of us. I am an extremely accessible person and really have nothing else to do, so god knows that I have the spare time to listen to all of you."



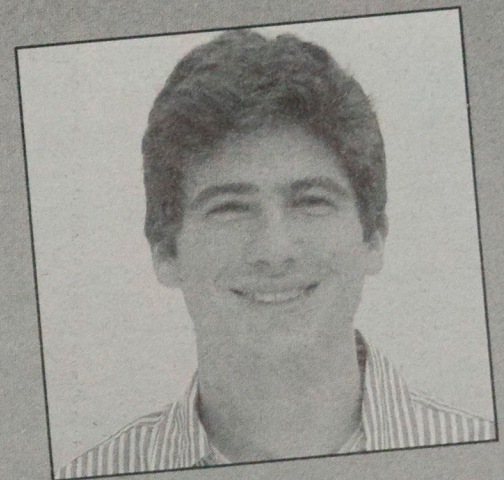
Sarah Elkhayat
Wonnacott Senator

"One of the things I'd like to do if elected to the Senate would be to push for a college-issued debit/access card. With this card, you just put a set amount of money on it at the beginning of the semester and use it whenever you want a smoothie from the Juice Bar or to do your laundry because you've run out of clean underwear. It would be nice to have fewer details to worry about in our busy lives."



Keith Grogg
Wonnacott Senator

"I want to be a senator for Wonnacott commons because I feel it is my duty to give back to the Middlebury community. I have enjoyed working in the Wonnacott Commons office, thereby acquainting myself with the workings of the commons. My involvement with the commons puts me in a unique position among candidates where I am both privy to the bureaucratic structure of the commons and am an outsider to the existing political structure."



Max Nardini
Wonnacott Senator

"I am running for Wonnacott Senator because I truly care about Middlebury. I possess the conviction to stay in close contact with the Wonnacott Constituency and the passion to tirelessly represent your needs — to both our fellow student-representatives and the administration. I understand the great potential of student government, and what is required for SGA to reach its potential."

Burned out? 'Yoga'tta try Otter Creek Yoga

By Andrea Glaessner
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

It was a blustery day when I first spotted Otter Creek Yoga on my way to the neighboring Chinese restaurant. I had a rough day at school and decided a little comfort in the form of hot and sour soup and some Kung Pao chicken would certainly boost my spirits. As I rushed over to the restaurant I spotted a green awning with the word YOGA in big white letters. I peeked in the window to glimpse a few women chatting in the waiting room with a few stretching bodies in the background.

Bustling on my way, it was not until I was lying on my bed clutching my incredibly full stomach that I remembered the green awning. Chinese food is delicious, and certainly has a way of making me feel better when I am feeling cranky and burned out. But maybe I should try something different to cheer me up, something that I cannot eat until I feel sick or that lasts longer than it takes to down a beer and a bowl of rice.

According to a recent study, I am not alone. The five most common stress relief habits are: consuming too much caffeine, smoking, drinking in excess, compulsive spending and emotional eating. Unfortunately, these habits are in fact all things that one might categorize as "vices." Partaking in them to blow off a little steam goes hand-in-hand with blowing off your liver and burning a hole in your wallet.

After my revelation, I decided to venture past the green awning at Otter Creek Yoga and see for myself whether yoga could in fact fulfill a person even more than mind-altering substances and other like forms of instant but questionable gratification. Perhaps there is a way to de-stress without Gucci, Godiva and Ganja.

After spending some time chatting with the director of the studio, Joanna Colwell and one of the instructors, Gaye Abbott, I am starting to think there is more to this yoga craze than mad flexibility and some restful meditation at the end. I have done yoga before, but it was in a basketball gym in Houston, Texas with a wacked-out

lady named Virgil who struggled to touch her toes. It was anticlimactic to say the least.

But with the right instructor and an open mind, regular yoga can set you off on a journey to improve your body's flexibility and strength, balance your mind, learn to look at the world differently and nourish your soul. Tucked into the south block of Marbleworks, Otter Creek Yoga welcomes anyone ready to reap the physical, mental, and emotional benefits of the yogi way of life.

So how can a little stretching and heavy breathing really change your life? Just ask Colwell and she is more than happy to share her story. Colwell has been teaching yoga for 12 years, seven of which she has spent here in Middlebury. Before she opened the studio in Marbleworks, Colwell says she was "a roving yoga teacher, teaching wherever there was space."

Last year Colwell's dream to open her own studio finally came to fruition, and it was not long before word was out about the new studio

I do a lot of environmental and peace activism and I love bringing that into the studio because that's what yoga's all about.

—Joanna Colwell

space in town.

"After I opened the studio, all these other teachers appeared which is great," said Colwell. "Now there are five of us teaching here with a real range of styles."

Colwell considers herself a strict follower of Iyengar yoga, which is a rigorous, precise style of yoga that focuses on alignment.

"You hear a lot of very specific

instructions about how to move this part of your ribcage," explained Colwell, "You tend to hold the postures for a long time, it's very demanding, very dynamic."

The style is named after BKS Iyengar, an 87 year old man who taught countless yogis who traveled to India and proceeded to spread Iyengar's style all over the world. "You can practice Iyengar all over the world now, it has really spread," Colwell said. "There's not a lot of Iyengar yoga in Vermont. There are other styles that are less precise and tend to have more people practicing and teaching them."

Colwell prefers Iyengar yoga because of its attention to the body's alignment. She explained that one of the hallmarks of Iyengar is that while it demands a lot of the body and mind, the attention to alignment that the style requires makes it very safe for beginners.

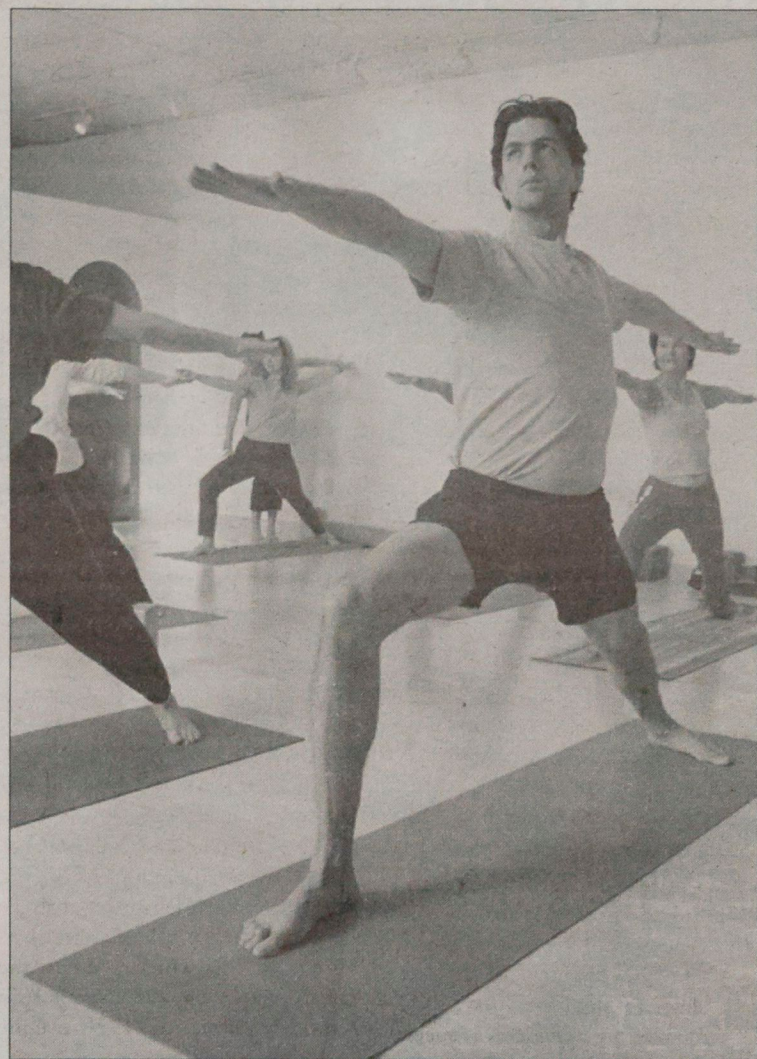
"I can have a 70 year old with a really tight body do yoga safely with Iyengar yoga," she says, "Especially with props that teach the body how to open without getting injured."

Abbott, a yoga therapist and instructor at the studio, who, like Colwell, was trained in the California Bay Area, teaches another style of yoga that is more common in Vermont. Abbott explained that her style focuses on diaphragmatic breathing and is less strict than Iyengar. Abbott's "yoga therapy" features a blend of Iyengar yoga and other types of other "flowing" yoga.

Abbott and Colwell, sitting relaxed on the rich bamboo floor of the studio, tried to describe their very different teaching styles, but it was apparent that the best way to understand the different techniques is to see them first-hand.

In fact, Colwell often encourages beginning students to attend a variety of classes to determine which style feels most comfortable and which instructor they feel most naturally connected to. One of the best ways to experiment is to attend a free class on the fourth Friday of every month, which Colwell says, "Gives new people a little taste of the studio and what we have to offer."

The studio boasts a warm,



Kevin Lehman

An Otter Creek yogi poses in one of Colwell's classes taught at the studio.

bright room where yogis can stretch and breathe to their hearts' content. But more unique is that the instructors go beyond helping their students to improve physically. They seek to teach their students about the yogi way of life by inspiring them with their own work in environmental and peace activism.

When asked about her thoughts on Bikram yoga, a very popular new yoga fad that involves performing a strict routine in a room with the temperature set at over 110 degrees, Colwell's response indicated the depth of her passion for environmental activism.

"As an anti-global warming activist I have a really big problem with Bikram yoga in Vermont. When you heat a room to 110 degrees, you're not being efficient with energy. I do a lot of environmental and peace work and I love bringing that into my work because that's what yoga is all about," she said. However, she admits that during the summer, Bikram would be a more environmentally friendly option.

To try to summarize the major theoretical or philosophical concept that is the backbone of practicing yoga is difficult. But generally speaking, yoga is a way of life that requires respect for the earth and the air that is vital for human existence. So being an environmental activist is quite fitting with Colwell's job as a yoga instructor. Abbott is also an environmental activist and proudly stated that the studio's bamboo floor was "all-natural and chemical free" and that the cleaning products at Otter Creek were also environmentally friendly.

Colwell works with the People for Less Pollution group, which formed in response to the International Paper tire burn in November. She is also quite involved in protesting the Iraq war and promoting peace. This Wednesday at 7 p.m., the

studio is screening a documentary on the war entitled, "The Ground Truth" which Colwell described as "incredibly moving."

The yogi way of life is steeped in historical and philosophical traditions. In addition to sharing their own passion for environmental and peace activism, Colwell and the other Otter Creek instructors make sure their students learn about the "yamas," ethical precepts that yogis are expected to adhere to, as well as "nyamas" – personal practices for yogis.

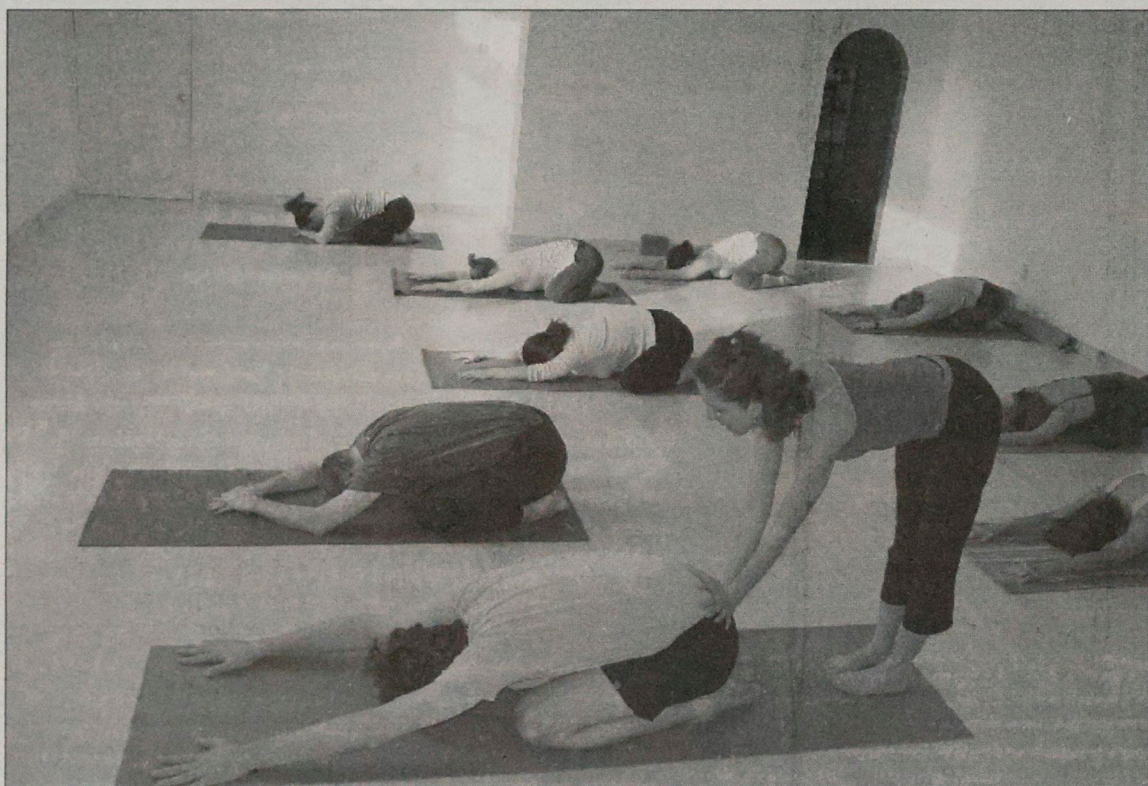
Otter Creek Yoga classes are richer and more fulfilling than just any yoga class, and certainly more than Virgil's, because they offer such rare intellectual enlightenment. Yoga has certainly been gaining popularity in the mainstream media and in popular culture, yet Colwell still bumps into a few skeptics every so often.

"A lot of people are leery about yoga because they think it's about twisting their body in this weird position and doing chanting and stuff," said Colwell. "And then they come in and realize it just feels so good."

The regular attendees of Otter Creek Yoga classes represent a broad spectrum of individuals from retired college professors to retired engineers to college students to little kids. A typical class could have a mix of all those types of people. Interestingly, Colwell tends to see many psychotherapists attend her yoga classes.

"They understand how we store a lot of bad stuff in our bodies and it's important to help your body to help your mind," said Colwell.

Otter Creek Yoga offers a break from the hectic nature of everyday life and an outlet to enrich your mind and body. It's a trip well worth venturing outside the bubble for.



Kevin Lehman

Colwell focuses her student on correcting his alignment, which is a major tenet of the Iyengar yoga style.

Middle‘buried’ under Valentine blizzard

By Kelly Janis

LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

The whirl of snow plows. The scrape of shovels. The exasperated sighs of snowbound homeowners, suffocated by a whirlwind of white fluff.

As Middlebury College students basked snugly in the reprieve of a snow day, the Northeast pulled out all the stops to wrench itself out from under what has begun to be called the Valentine’s Day Blizzard of 2007. The epically proportioned storm, which drew its moisture from the Gulf of Mexico and arrived in two explosive waves, one from North Carolina and the other from the Ohio Valley — delayed flights, propelled scattered power outages, spurred jackknifing tractor trailers and cancelled schools for as many as three consecutive days.

The blizzard set a new 24-hour snow fall record in Burlington — shattering by 2.3 inches a record which had been in place since 1934 — and at 25.7 inches, ranked as the city’s second largest snow fall since record-keeping began in 1883.

According to snow fall totals offered by the National Weather Service, Central Vermont was among the regions hit hardest by the storm. Both Montpelier and Waterbury Center reported receiving 30 inches of snow.

The National Weather Service in Burlington released a special weather statement advising that there was an increased risk of avalanches in the back country of the Green Mountains in Vermont and the Adirondacks in Northern New York.

“Outdoor enthusiasts heading into the Back Country through the holiday weekend need to be aware of the avalanche danger and the risks involved,” the statement

read. “Steep, open slopes will have the highest avalanche risk ... The conditions creating the avalanche potential will continue into early next week. If you go into the Adirondacks or Green Mountains to snowshoe, ski, or ice climb, be aware of the avalanche danger and take appropriate precautions.”

The powerful weather caused numerous problems for the town’s dwellers. A dispatcher at the Middlebury Police Department said that the most serious complication posed to local residents by the storm came in the form of carbon monoxide poisoning. Drifting snow amassed on heating vents and prompted the build-up of the poisonous gas inside of homes, causing several individuals to grow ill. This was the case in other locales as well. The Burlington Free Press reported that twelve people were treated for minor cases of carbon monoxide related illnesses at Fletcher Allen Health Care on Thursday.

The same newspaper did not have any more heartening news to offer with regard to the fortunes of the area’s farming population. Ten dairy barns across the state were reported to have collapsed beneath the storm’s might. A collapse at the Goodrich Farm in Salisbury resulted in the death of more than 40 cows, a loss which will cost the family \$300,000 to \$400,000 in damages, alongside lost revenue from milk production.

Despite the seriousness of such events, the blizzard managed to haul in tow its share of benefits for industries ailing in the wake of a previously mild winter. Sugarbush Resort, a popular Warren, Vt. ski destination, delighted in the coveted four feet of snow that slammed its mountaintops.

“It’s insane. It’s unbelievable,”

said employee Kelly Stadman. “Today was like a very busy Saturday, and it’s a Friday. People are still coming out, people are still very happy. The storm has done nothing but good things for us.”

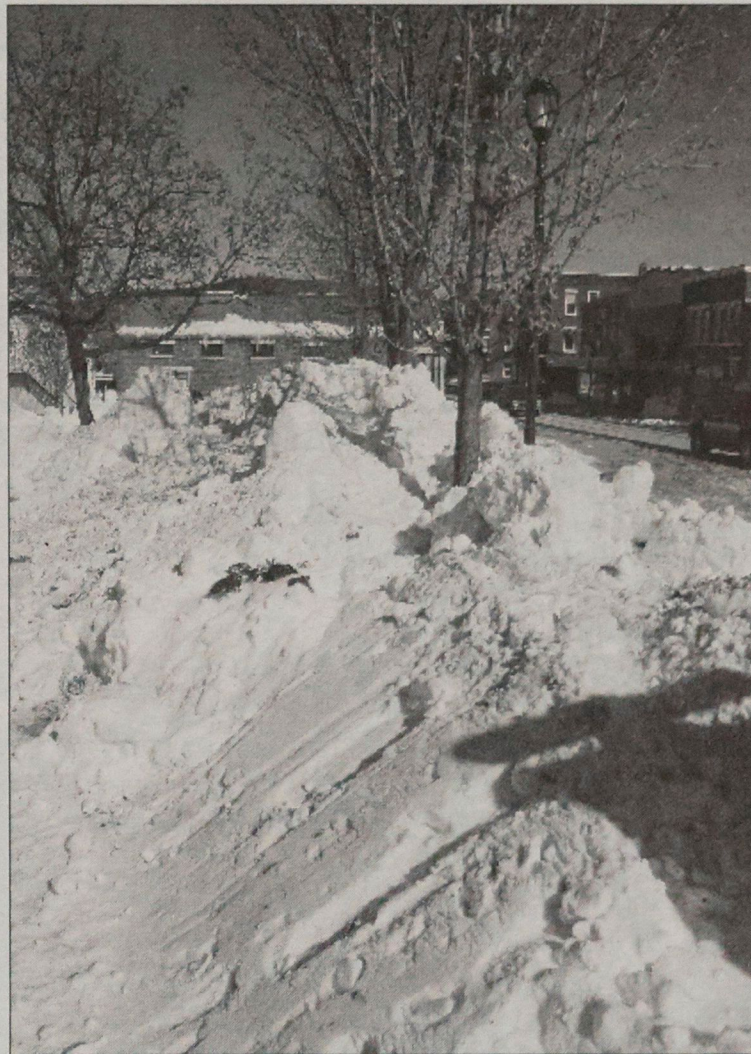
The ski conditions at Stowe Mountain were similarly enhanced. “Stowe was already 100 percent open before this new snow arrived, and conditions for the upcoming holiday week will be the best in the East, and perhaps the best in the country (yup, we said it,)” the resort’s website boasted. “Mother Nature has given us the best Valentine’s Day present we could have hoped for.”

Not every industry fared as well. A number of local restaurants took unfortunate hits in the wake of the storm.

“Wednesday was not a good day. I had one customer. They came in to pick up an order, a lunch special, and that was it all day,” said Davey Mei, owner of May Garden Chinese restaurant. “Thursday, I was open in the nighttime. I originally said ‘no business!’ but I opened anyway, and we had a few customers.” A relative newcomer to Middlebury, Mei was impressed by the magnitude of the storm. “Last year, it didn’t snow like this,” he said.

An employee of Tully & Marie’s said that the restaurant remained open throughout the storm, but that business was slow and parking was an issue. Most of the customers who spilled through the doors of the establishment had braved the windy abyss to arrive there on foot.

While the storm kept the typical hoards of Valentine’s Day diners at bay, the matter did not universally translate into financial loss. On the contrary, the Middlebury Inn



Chris Heinrich

Snow banks tower high over Main Street in the wake of last week’s storm.

and Restaurant prospered. “The storm actually had a positive economic effect on the Inn,” said employee Calvin Hobbs. “About 60 or 70 people, doctors, nurses, people who couldn’t get home from work, came in off the street and stayed overnight.”

The intervention of such doctors and nurses proved necessary as individuals succumbed to the storm’s fatal blows. According to

the Rutland Herald, three patients died of heart attacks and 10 more were treated for cardiac problems at Southwestern Vermont Medical Center on Thursday as a consequence of shoveling snow.

As the towering snow banks recede, the storm is certain to linger in the memories of local residents. At last, the Vermont winter is beginning to display its characteristically full fury.

Waterfront revamps, reorganizes video stock

By Tamara Hilmes

LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

PeekVid and YouTube may be offering students free, criminal access to tv shows and movies online, but for those who tire of watching films in small, three-inch boxes, there’s still the video rental store. Whether you are looking for the complete second season of “Lost,” a sophisticated foreign film to impress your girlfriend or the 80s classic, “The Breakfast Club,” the newly remodeled Waterfront Video, located in Marble Works, has every movie that could possibly suit your whim.

Waterfront Video, which has an additional branch in Burlington, first opened in Middlebury in September of 1998. Until this past summer, the building had not undergone any restorations since its opening.

“It badly needed to be repainted,” employee Joi Hart said.

This past summer the staff of Waterfront Video all worked together to give the “eclectic” video store a new look.

“We cleaned everything, put it back up and added colorful and tropical decorations,” explained Pam Davis, another Waterfront employee. “We also reorganized the store. We moved things around to make it easier for the customers.”

The renovating involved expanding the family and children’s sections which now stretches the

length of the side wall and is low to the ground, making it accessible to children so that they can “look for a movie while their parents browse,” said Davis.

Although the look of the store may have changed, its extensive selection remains not only intact, but enlarged. Because their expansive collection including Sports Action, 80s Bliss, Kung Fu and Anime may be overwhelming to first-time customers, the staff has placed a shelf labeled

“We have the best VHS old-style collection”
—Pam Davis

“Waterfront Top 50, You Know You Want ‘em” at the front of the store.

“This way, when customers come in saying ‘I don’t know what I want,’ they can just grab something that’s popular,” Davis explained. Indecisive customers also have the option of using the in-store database to look up movies and create a viewing “wish-list,” or they can simply visit waterfrontvideo.com/midd.html and look through the store’s latest list of titles.

If you do dare to venture beyond the front of the store, long shelves decorated with toy trucks and paper umbrellas lie in wait, full of mov-

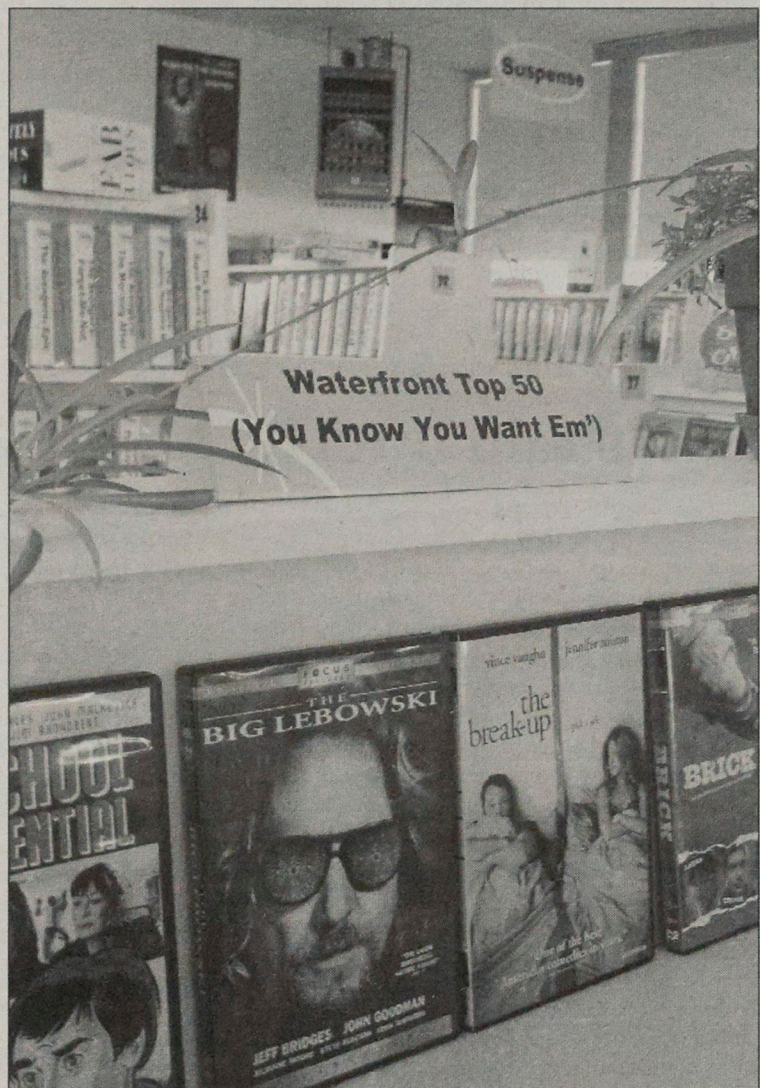
ies labeled “Cultural Dissidents and Other Crazy Geniuses,” “Bond... James Bond Action” and “Directors (these guys aren’t quite right),” which includes the likes of Peter Jackson.

The store is most proud, however, of its extensive VHS collection. “We have the best VHS old-style collection,” Davis claimed. “People come from Boston, New York and L.A. and have seen nothing like it.” Better yet, if the Middlebury location does not have the video you are looking for, they can order it from the Burlington store. “Students and faculty come in all the time and just give us a title,” said Davis. “If we can’t find it, we can call over to Burlington.”

Waterfront also offers several promotions throughout the week. If you venture to the store on a Monday for some mid-week movie-viewing you can get your second new-release rental for just \$1.

“We have this great deal where you can rent four older titles for four days for only eight bucks,” Davis noted. “We just want to make it easy on folks.”

If the extensive movie collection and sweet deals are not enough to tempt you, you can always stop by the store for some of Leonardo’s Italian Gelato and Sorbet or a “tasty” beverage from the “funky” vintage cooler at the front of the store. As Davis put it, “It’s the odd little things that make it fun.”



Tamara Hilmes

Perusing the shelves of Waterfront Video the newly reorganized system makes finding a good movie to watch on a snowy day a snap and a half.

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editorials

The staff editorial represents the official opinion of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the Editorial Board and drafted by the Opinions Editors.

Middlebury 1, Blizzard 0

Last Wednesday night, Middlebury and the rest of the Northeast bore witness to a blizzard that brought several feet of snow, sub-zero temperatures and strong, gusty winds.

In a decidedly Middlebury fashion, the snow brought faculty children sleigh-riding down Mead Chapel's hill, new Febs building snow forts on Battell Beach, excited skiers heading for the Bowl and, of course, many relieved students who were able to extend their hiatus from studies that began with Feb break (or J-term).

For the students of Middlebury College, the snow was not an impediment but rather a luxury. The reason? The Middlebury College staff.

Defying all odds with a Valentine's Day gift to be remembered for some time, the College Staff held this campus together last Wednesday night and throughout the day on Thursday.

Thanks to Middlebury's Dining Services staff, all three dining halls remained open Wednesday night and throughout the day Thursday. To accomplish the feat, more than a half dozen dining hall employees wrapped up in sleeping bags and spent the night on sofas and furniture sleeping in the dining halls. Without their willingness to stay here, they could have been snowed into their homes and unable to return to open dining halls for students on Thursday morning.

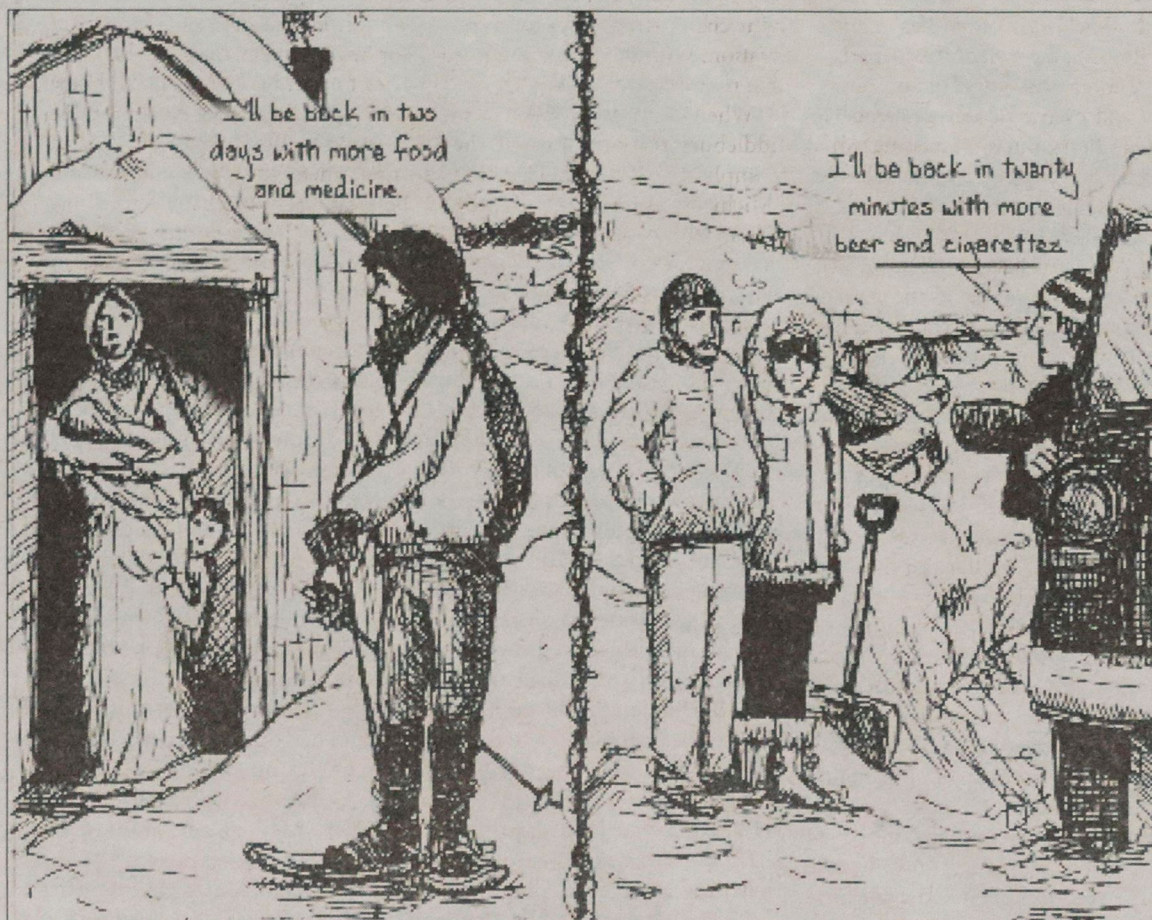
The top-notch work of the facilities staff should also be commended. Facilities services crews were out late Tuesday and worked tirelessly through the week to ensure that the roads and walkways were passable. When we were going to bed and when we were waking up, we could still hear Facilities' trucks plowing and staff shoveling at all hours of the storm. Every student should thank a member of the facilities team for their hard work, and also be mindful that the work does not end with this one blizzard, but continues throughout the long Middlebury winter.

And we appreciate the work of the administrators in Old Chapel for their handling of the College through the winter storm. While canceling classes on Wednesday would have been nice, and might have even allowed Facilities staff to get ahead of the snowfall accumulation, the late night e-mail from President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and non-stop updates from other offices let us know decisions were not being taken lightly. As President Liebowitz commented after the storm, everyone could learn something from the things that might have gone better last week, but we would say a lot of things went very well.

contact the campus

To contact The Middlebury Campus Publications with story tips or content suggestions, e-mail: campus@middlebury.edu

or find us on the web at: www.middleburycampus.com



Taylor Long and Sam Dakota Miller

letters to the editor

To the Editor:

Collegiate should be spelled "collegiate." Perhaps alcohol was being consumed at the time the editorial was written.

It seems the generation preceding those on the Editorial Board has saddled your generation with enough issues of significance, that lowering the drinking age would not warrant a lead editorial. Then again, perhaps the more one thinks about the issues your generation has been saddled with, the more one needs a good stiff drink. International turmoil, global terrorism, exhaustion of cheap natural resources, as well as the burden of caring for the large population of aging baby boomers (that's us), certainly could lead one to drink.

In our day, issues focused on war and peace, and civil liberties. That doesn't mean the alcohol didn't flow, or other mind altering substances weren't ever present; but at least they and other priorities were kept in context and priorities weren't confused.

As parents, we don't really care if some recreational drinking occurs at age 19 versus 21 (as long as you aren't driving!). But we sure hope you all are keeping your priorities in order. We've made a real mess of the world and are counting on you to set things straight!

Jerry Salkowe
 Class of 2007 Parent
 Greenwich, NY

guessing my History colleagues weren't afraid of losing power to the intellectual proletariat. Perhaps they were concerned for students who, like Koglmeier, have trouble distinguishing facts from opinions. Koglmeier describes the ban as an attack on "general commentary" and "the opinions of the general public," but Wikipedia doesn't purport to be a chat room for the expression of "views." It claims to be a depository of facts, and the accuracy of factual information is not simply a matter of popular opinion.

For example, it is legal fact that Professor Morsman spells her last name with one "o," and even if Koglmeier can find a thousand people to spell her name the way he insisted on penning it—"Moorsman"—that doesn't alter the fact that they'd be spelling her name wrong.

Facts can be right or wrong, and unfortunately none of the "quality control" mechanisms by which scholarship is normally evaluated exists for a site like Wikipedia. Whether the best response to the risks is simply to hold students accountable for any inaccuracies or to ban the use of Wikipedia altogether, I'm still not sure. But only in politics is "acceptance a reality in itself" and democracy a (nearly) unambiguous virtue.

In the realm of academic research, scholars owe it to themselves and their disciplines to get the facts right, and there are more reliable ways to do that than by clicking on your Wikipedia bookmark.

To the Editor:

In response to Chandler Koglmeier's Op-Ed on the History Department's ban on Wikipedia: I'm

Professor James Calvin Davis
 Department of Religion
 Middlebury, VT

campus policies and information

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notes from the desk: Jeff Patterson Sitting shouldn't sting

Middlebury College has chairs for almost every academic department, three chairlifts at the Snow Bowl and even a hockey goaltender named Cherry. But we're missing two things: a conference-contending basketball team and consistently comfortable chairs in our classrooms.

With yet two more first-round exits from the NESCAC Tournament on Feb. 17, Middlebury basketball as a whole needs some solidifying. While the women's team has had little problem making the Tournament (eight out of the ten teams in the league do make the postseason), they have not seen the second round since the '02 season. The men have had it worse: They've only made four Tournaments and they've lost those games by an average of 11 points.

Don't get me wrong. I'm not calling for coaches' heads. I'm not even asking for coaches' heads to be evaluated. I'd just like to make a suggestion: Coaches, pull an anti-Bobby Knight. Instead of flinging a chair across the floor, try bringing

up the chairs across campus in conversation. With it, I think you'll see some more wins.

When most folks say Middlebury is a small school, they are implying it's not the University of Michigan — where their football stadium alone seats 107,501. But when you take a look at the placement of the showerheads in the bathrooms, you'd think Midd was a school for the small. I'm lucky if I can even get my hair wet in the morning, and that's on a good day.

Now imagine what it's like for a center on the basketball team. The hot water must hit him in the center of his stomach — almost a hundred centimeters from the desired target. Despite the women's woeful 35.6 shooting percentage, they were closer to their mark than the showerhead.

But let's stick to chairs — you may in fact be already stuck to one. At least if we had comfortable seats, instead of ones whose backs end at about the third vertebra on your back, the tall could have something to sit on while in the shower stall.

Sitting should not sting. But for anyone taller than six feet who tries to lean back in a New Library desk chair, the feeling is comparable to electric shock. The way I see it, sometimes the electric chair would be more comfortable. Here's how we can kill two Larrys with one stone: Show some Chair Care and get bigger ones. It's time to say, "see ya" to *las sillas*.

Hey, Old Chapel, your chairs are old. Twilight, your chairs are in the twilight of their careers. Yo, Munroe, people grow after they're fo'. (years old)

When I come back to school in September, I'd rather not have a sore back. Plus, I can guarantee that the basketball teams will score 11 more points per game — precisely the value one would get for spelling "chairs" in Scrabble. That would be just enough to cover the deficit the Panthers men's teams have faced in NESCAC Tournament games.

Jeff Patterson is a sports editor and junior Feb English major from Old Saybrook, Connecticut.

heard on campus

In having the Trustees officially endorse carbon neutrality, we can really get the ball rolling because this is not going to be a cost-free process.

— Caitlin Littlefield '07.5, speaking on behalf of the Sunday Night Group during Friday's Trustee meeting

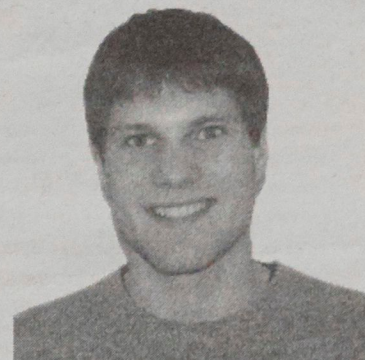
more matter: Matty Van Meter What inflation?

"Grade Inflation." Say it and professors get defensive, students get offended and administrators begin throwing figurative smoke bombs. Let us parse the term. "Grade" is pretty easy. "Inflation," in the sense intended by the term, is defined by the OED as "great or undue enlargement; increase beyond proper limits." There it is: great or undue increase of grades, presumably across all groups.

The debate in prestigious institutions about this issue has brought out some interesting preconceptions. The most striking to me is that the focus of the issue seems to be around professors. As with many such issues, there is a negative stereotype, which supplants the actual people in the foci of critical heat. This is the image of a tenured professor, assured in his cushy career at the college and using increasingly anachronistic teaching methods in a course taken by students for an "easy A." This is what academicians fear. There is, especially in highly selective institutions, a drive to bring down the average GPA of the student body, and a perception that those professors whose classes are not murderously hard are somehow not upholding standards of academic rigor.

The truth is, and I think that every person who has attended any school at any level will know this, there are hard classes, easy classes and normal classes. This helps students balance their lives, and affords them more choice each semester. Some professors will always give higher grades, and some will begrudgingly bestow a B+ only upon the anointed few. Students are acutely aware of these realities, and are therefore able to find a comfortable level of difficulty, which allows them to function effectively.

There has been a move recently in some institutions to impose upon classes a bell-curve grading system, in which students are evaluated not only for the quality of their work, but in comparison to other students. Whatever merits this system may have in principle,



the kind of individualistic competition fostered by it is anathema to a healthy intellectual community. There is already little enough teamwork at Middlebury. To remove the incentives for studying together and sharing ideas, indeed to create a powerful incentive for personal hoarding of knowledge, is a very dangerous idea.

One may question (I certainly do) whether grade inflation, as a result of professorial leniency, actually exists at all. People often throw around the unusually high average student GPAs at schools such as Harvard, Williams or Middlebury. These numbers have, indeed, been rising over time. Yet is there a more plausible explanation than a slow nation-wide movement towards easy grading? How about the students? With all the focus on the professors, we forget the students. At institutions like Middlebury, the vast majority of students had GPAs well above average in high school, were hard-working, very smart and adaptable. They are the right-hand edge of the bell curve. Are a majority of them just going to become more slothful, while the real "A" students continue their drive upwards? Certainly it happens to a few. But to expect so many students who did exceedingly well in high school to suddenly become "B" students is unrealistic.

We seek an artificial bell curve in a group of students selected to break that very curve. In fact, it is a great credit to the student bodies of the top American institutions that the average grade has risen so much as to become an issue of debate.

op-ed: Theo May Lebanon's Tragic Flaws

I've been in Beirut now for just over one incredible month. Three weeks ago, I was in the city when moderate levels of civil strife broke out, leaving nine dead and a couple hundred wounded. While those days were certainly memorable, the most fascinating days were those that came after the violence. The city was dead on the day that Hezbollah blocked roads across the country with burning tires. Because no cars could get on the roads, stores were closed and people stayed home. Walking to work that morning, I was able to stroll down the middle of the street for the whole forty-five minute walk, without ever having to move out of the way of oncoming traffic.

The next day, however, was an entirely different story. With newspaper headlines across the country screaming that Lebanon was on the verge of civil war, and with politicians denouncing one another for inspiring the previous day's violence that they swore had pushed the country over the edge, I was wary of what I might find on the streets.

To my amazement, I stepped outside to find a day like any other. It was something I had read about in history books, but it was truly awe-inspiring to see a city functioning as normal, despite the violence from the day before and the poisonous rhetoric from politicians on all sides. People I talked to on the street seemed defiant in their attitudes towards the previous day's roadblocks, brawls and gun battles. It's not that they didn't care about the fate of their country, it's that yesterday was just another day in the often sad march of Lebanon's history.

And that's when it hit me — fifteen years of intense fighting between 1975 and 1990 had hardened the Lebanese and, more importantly, created in them the uncanny ability to take a punch and bounce right back.

Herein lies the problem, there is hardly a blow big enough to make the Lebanese stand up and yell, "Stop!" Their ability to come back so quickly is both their greatest and most tragic asset. Unfortunately, Hezbollah realizes this and its strategy in Lebanon reflects its understanding of the population's high threshold for pain.

When militants, likely tied to Syria, killed Former Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri in February, 2005, it crossed the line of what the people could stomach. Demonstrations of record sizes raged in the city center until the Syrian government folded under the pressure and withdrew its military from the country. Hezbollah knows it cannot afford to perpetrate an act on that scale to win its war, because the people will not tolerate it.

Instead, it is waging a war of attrition with periodic demonstrations, perpetual rhetorical barrages against the government and a now two-month old sit-in strike in Beirut's center. Hezbollah is not averse to violence in this new war. It wants to provoke the other side into starting the conflict so it can term its retaliation "defensive." We saw this in the summer war against Israel and we're seeing it again today across the country.

Hezbollah finds itself in a jam now, though. Last week, the Siniora cabinet provocatively passed a measure establishing the tribunal to try those suspected in Hariri's murder, something that Hezbollah has fero-

ciously opposed. On the other side, Israel is stepping up its rhetoric against Hezbollah in light of bombs it found along the border last week and what it sees as an intensification of the rearming of Hezbollah by Syria and Iran.

The problem for Hezbollah is that it will find it increasingly more difficult to wage its protracted low-level "tolerable" war against the Siniora government as it comes under increasing pressure from two sides.

The next few months in Lebanon will be fascinating as we watch Hezbollah try to fight its battles while not pushing the Lebanese people to the end of their collective rope. But Hezbollah cannot afford two wars at once. Back in the day when it was an underground guerilla movement, it could have skirmished on many fronts. Today, as Hezbollah seeks to remain a national institution, it can ill-afford to lash out at the increasing pressure, especially since it's coming on two fronts.

Hezbollah is at a crossroads. Can it find a way to continue to inflict low-grade pain on the Lebanese people without awakening that powerful activist muscle the citizenry is so capable of flexing? Siniora and Israel, unwittingly embracing the "enemy of my enemy is my friend" adage, have put Hezbollah in check. If the Lebanese people can lower their pain tolerance, which makes them so resilient, they are in a position to put Hezbollah in something resembling a checkmate.

Theo May is an International Studies Major with a concentration in Middle Eastern Studies. He is currently living in Beirut and working for the English newspaper, The Daily Star.

the web poll: What would be the effect of a lower drinking age on campus?



"It would be nice to get sauced without the 2.5 blowin' up your spot."

— FIL MARINKOVIC '08



"I don't believe all parents are capable of teaching the dangers of alcoholism; lowering the drinking age would only result in more poor decisions."

— LAURA POLLARD '10



"Public safety officers would have a lot more free time."

— JAMIE FALLON '09

There wouldn't really be any change in the amount of drinking that goes on.

27%

All hell would break lose.

13%

It would create a healthier and safer social scene at Middlebury.

60%



Results taken from poll at www.middleburycampus.com

Next week's web poll: Does Middlebury need more blue lights or more lighting on campus in general?

op-ed: Max Nardini

Student Government Can Matter

My experiences last year as Sophomore Senator taught me that we, the Middlebury Community, do not have a common conception of what the Student Government Association (SGA) is, what it does or what it can do. Many define SGA as the voice of the student body. I agree. But what does "the voice of the student body" really mean? Allow me to share my thoughts concerning the function and purpose of student government.

The structure of SGA is simple. There are two bodies: the Presidential Cabinet and the Senate. The Cabinet is composed of Committee heads, which are appointed by the President, while the Senate is made up of elected student representatives from the classes and commons. As part of its responsibilities, the Senate debates and votes on resolutions.

Senate resolutions are best described as "resolutions of sentiment." They are meant to demonstrate student support of a particular plan or policy change to the administration. On certain issues, the administration and the SGA see eye to eye. SGA-sponsored buses to New York City and Boston for breaks serve as a fine example of such a resolution. In this case, student-representatives and administrators recognized a student need and

worked together to implement the now very successful service.

Other issues are more complicated.

Middlebury administrators, like the managers of any good business, must perpetually balance college services with cost. Therefore, when a new initiative is proposed, the administration looks to see not simply if it has student support, but how high the initiative ranks on the list of student priorities.

Take the Sunday Night Group Initiative "Middshift," aimed at making Middlebury carbon neutral, for example. Given the general scientific consensus on the pernicious effects of climate change, this initiative seems a worthwhile pursuit. However, the administration will want to judge student commitment to this plan. How high of a priority is campus-wide carbon neutrality for students? What about in relation to other college benefits such as funding for student clubs, the spring concert or financial aid? This is not to say that Middlebury could not have a carbon neutral campus, a spring concert and provide

financial aid to students, but simply that the college does not have unlimited financial resources and must balance its expenditures.

This is why ubiquitous and often irksome surveys are necessary. In and of themselves Senate resolutions, which are voted on by 17 total representatives, are usually not enough to demonstrate widespread student support. Surveys are the most comprehensive method for the SGA and the administration to weigh student opinion.

So then, what is the value of Student Government? SGA is the *potential* bridge between the administration and the students. A position in SGA provides easier access to the administration, and thus the opportunity to voice student proposals and opinions, as revealed in surveys. However, members of the SGA must possess the conviction to meet with administrators — and to speak up. The best criteria by which to judge the senatorial candidates is whether you truly believe they are willing to put in substantial work outside the required weekly hour-long meeting, because that is what it takes to get anything done.

As both a member of the Middlebury community and candidate for Wonnacott Senator, I am in favor of several initiatives. I am in favor of making our campus carbon neutral. I am in favor of continuing to raise awareness and support for the victims of genocide in the Sudan. I am in favor of installing a modest but effective number of

"blue lights" with security call boxes around the campus. I am in favor of eliminating all harmful hydrogenated oil (transfats) from the dining halls. Finally, I am dedicated to facilitating open and informed debate on issues important to our community.

Regardless of the outcome of the election, I will continue to work toward these goals because I genuinely believe that they are important. However, as last year's senatorial experience taught me, no one can honestly pledge to complete a laundry list of initiatives over the course of a year. Change takes time. Being elected Wonnacott Senator would make it easier to work toward realizing these goals. Still, win or lose, I cannot promise to achieve the above initiatives by the end of the academic year.

What I can unequivocally promise is that I will fight to ensure that student opinion has a role in the policy making of Middlebury College. I promise to work to rally student support on important issues, and do my very best to ensure that the administration has a clear understanding of student priorities. Most importantly, I promise to always be open to the thoughts, comments and concerns of all members of our fine Community.

Together we have the power to ensure that our short time at this incredible institution is one of which we can all truly be proud.

Max Nardini is a Junior Political Science major from New York City. He is currently running for Wonnacott commons Senator.



Sign the online petition today!

The initiative to create a Korean language program at Middlebury begins here:

<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/koreanatmiddlebury>

Find out more at the website and get involved!

Three reasons to learn Korean:

1. The threat of nuclear proliferation looms large.
2. The US State Department deems it a critical language.
3. There is more to Asia than China and Japan.

Snow survival made easy



Jenny Goldstein

What to do when winter finds you unprepared

By Joseph Bergan
FEATURES EDITOR

You got the phone call. Don't even lie and say you didn't. Your family called sometime during the last two days of last week after hearing about the blizzard of the century. They plead of you — "Don't go outside, I don't want you drifting into a snow bank and dying!"

DYING? That sort of thing is reserved for the infirm and the elderly. Middlebury students are invincible! We will live forever! Or will we?

Consider the following: You and

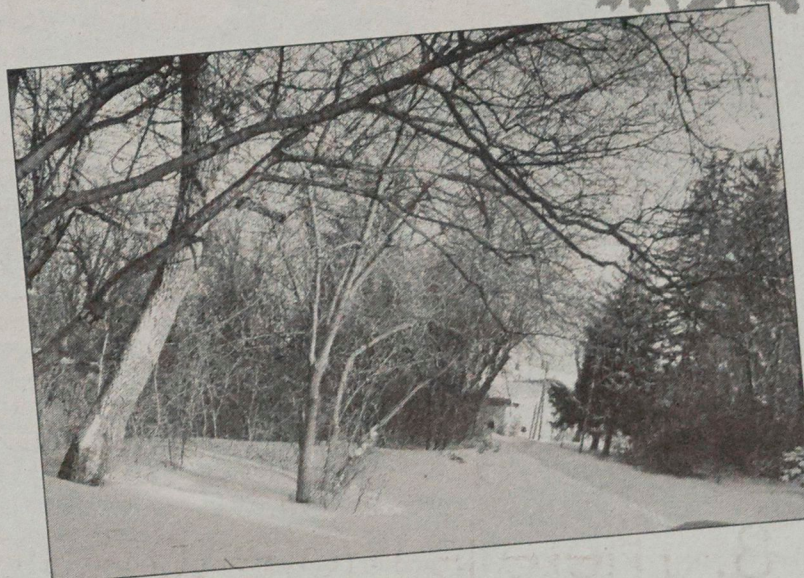
some friends head out to the Green Mountains to do some snowshoeing. You pack some water, an orange and some peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. You were never any good at snowshoeing, in fact, you're just trying to impress Amanda, who sits in front of you in history class, and who your best friend John knows from... never mind. The fact is, you lag behind and get lost.

The bad news is Amanda and John are making out somewhere, but you get the rations. After devouring them in five minutes (you never were any

good at conservation), darkness settles in. Your cell phone is on your desk in your room. So much for dreams of outdoor adventures. Well, now what? How are you going to survive until the rescue party shows up? And who knows when that will happen?

Rest assured. For just this type of situation, *The Campus* has consulted with various scholarly works to learn how the Inuits — the true originators of keeping warm in arctic conditions — have survived for so long.

SEE MUSK-OX, PAGE 14



sex sage

Your roommate and my best friend, page 12

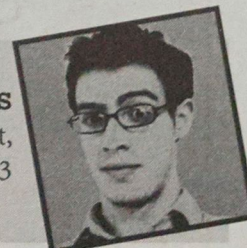


Dealing with stress

As the new semester begins, how to deal with stress at Middlebury, page 13

newton's laws

The Asimo makes its debut, should we be afraid?, page 13





sexsage

by Sage Biester

This past Sunday saw Middlebury's annual production of "The Vagina Monologues." Every woman that saw the show left feeling high on vagina pride, and every man that saw it left feeling slightly uneasy and a bit jealous.

Why do women get to have these complicated but ultimately wonderful relationships with their vaginas, and men just get a penis? As my friend Stuart put it, the penis is like a man's roommate — you just have to deal with him. Ultimately, he is his own entity with his own mind, and he does what he wants, sometimes in complete disregard to what you want. You want to go somewhere, but he's not in the mood. You want to bring a girl back to your place, but he's too drunk and you end up hanging out with him instead. He's your buddy, and sometimes he's a lot of fun, but other times he's just a dick.

According to "The Vagina Monologues," and just about every woman I asked, the vagina is too integral a part of who you are as a woman to be thought of as separate from your being. But if I was forced to make an analogy, I would say that a woman's vagina is akin to her best friend — they are so much a part of us that you could hardly talk about one without mentioning the other.

She is there for you when you really need her, and if she was sick or in trouble, you would do anything to help her. But she can also betray you, and you even hate her sometimes. Ultimately, you love her more than you can express, and you know that she will always be a part of your life.

Maybe I'm oversimplifying, but we — men and women — could all understand each other if we remembered these analogies the next time we went on a date or went to bed with someone. Women have to remember that a guy's penis might do something — like lose its erection — and that has nothing to do with her. Trust me, he still likes you, but his roommate just knocked on the door and wants to watch a movie and it threw him off his game. Anytime that has ever happened to me, I got upset, thinking I had done or said something to turn him off. My partner had always assured me it wasn't, but who is going to believe a guy with his pants down? Now after hearing Stuart's brilliant analogy, it all makes sense.

And guys have to remember to treat a woman's vagina like you would treat her best friend — with the utmost dignity and respect. Don't say a word to upset her. I know that I would never get with a guy, much less date him, if my best friend didn't approve. Same goes for my vagina. They are both looking out for your best interest, so always listen to what they have to say.

So what does this mean for sex and dating at Middlebury? I have no idea, but I hope that you have a really great roommate, and that my best friend likes you.

Feb breakers flock both near and far

Feb break. It seems but a distant memory amidst the flurry of new Febs, scrambling for courses and brave forays into the icy landscape. A week into the second semester, two Middlebury students reflect back on their different vacation experiences.

Opting for the sun, six girls relax in the Dominican

If my vacation over Feb break taught me anything, it taught me this — all-inclusiveness is a beautiful thing.

Upon arrival at the Melia Tropical resort in Punta Cana (Dominican Republic), I (along with my five Midd travel buddies) acquired a gold, hologrammed plastic bracelet for my left wrist. This snap-on bracelet was the kind of bracelet that can never be removed, not that one would ever, ever want to. And why is that, you might ask? During our week in "The DR," we were fortunate enough to do the following, without paying anything extra — kayak, sail, windsurf and play beach volleyball. We had access to seven or eight bars, which featured any and every type of beverage. By "any beverage," I will clarify that on day three of our trip, one of the girls (who will remain nameless) asked for the coconut drink. Ten minutes later, a coconut had been yanked down from a palm tree, cut open and filled with rum (and diluted with coconut milk, in case the idea of plain rum was disgusting). For meals, we dined at buffets for breakfast and lunch (best nachos ever), and at a la carte restaurants for dinner. Mont Pelliér water was the unlimited bottled water of choice, and between the six of us, we probably drank two hundred bottles or more.

In terms of the atmosphere of the resort, well, we were the youngest, apart from those under the age of ten, most of whom frequented the Flintstones Kids Club. Yet, on numerous occasions, one of my friends who spoke excellent Spanish received invitations to the nightclub Mangu (outside of the resort, and therefore too far for us). We were told that if we went there, we could dance, drink some beer, hug and maybe even kiss. Tempting. By about day three of the trip, we realized it was probably better to plead ignorance and just speak English in order to avoid these

awkward encounters. Our second realization was that no one at this resort had ever seemed to have seen a group of six twenty-something girls. So, you might be wondering, what kinds of acquaintances did we meet? Who, besides us, ventured to the remote side of the Dominican Republic to bask in the glory of all-inclusiveness? On the first full day of our trip we came across Max, the lone Russian who appeared at the same bar, in the same chair, every night. We encountered a Canadian wedding party, which included one member of the Canadian swat team (which, come to think of it, probably would have helped had we ventured to Mangu). He and his buddies were the closest we came to making legitimate friends. Edwin, the resort's activities director, seemed to make it a point to bump into us numerous times during the evenings. He multitasked between sipping on a cuba libre and ensuring that the nightly activities, which included Dominican disco nights and fire twirling, ran smoothly. On our last night in the beautiful Punta Cana,



Alyson Bourne

Lounging on the beach in Punta Cana, Midd gals desperately seek sun.

we dined at the Japanese restaurant where we were fortunate enough to meet Louis and Luc, the twins from Montreal who were celebrating their fiftieth birthdays together.

When we left the Melia Tropical on Feb. 10 to return to chilly Vermont, it was rather strange to drive back into the unmanicured world, where palm trees aren't perfectly lined up and people don't walk around in bikinis (or in many cases, no bikinis at all). However, we intentionally chose the all-inclusive package, so that we could experience this vacation phenomenon. And, while maybe we didn't meet our future husbands, or anyone our age for that matter, the people we did meet are ones that we will never forget, in an endearing and hilarious sort of way.

—Alyson Bourne '07.5

Winter athlete stuck at Midd finds fun in Burlington

Most winter sports athletes were unable to escape Vermont's single-digit temperatures with a ten-day vacation to the Bahamas, as many of our peers did after J-term. Feb Break is scheduled during the height of conference play, and I found myself stuck on Middlebury's isolated campus for the entirety of the break. One-by-one, as they left for their road trips or exotic destinations, my fellow first-years in Stewart dorm stopped by to offer me their sympathy. Yet despite the warnings that I would die of boredom if I remained on campus, we, the Middlebury women's basketball team, managed to keep ourselves busy up here outside of daily basketball practices and games.

Just as many students do on regular weekends, we hit up Burlington for its fast-paced, sleepless night life. One evening, after one too many meals at Ross Dining Hall, we headed north to the heart of the city to cheer for the Vermont Frost Heaves in their American Basketball Association (ABA) game versus the Cape Cod Frenzy.

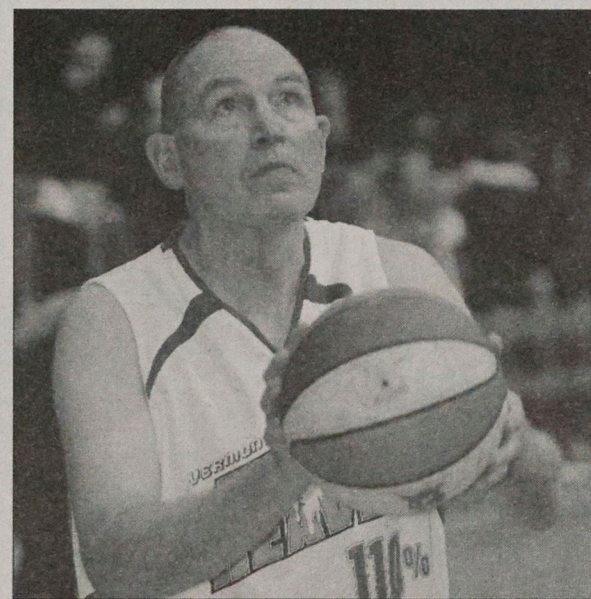
Located in Burlington's Memorial Auditorium, the venue was small but packed with locals who make these Frost Heaves games a family affair. The ABA makes these events very family friendly, as they feature contests for kids during time-outs and breaks, music from an area radio station and special rules where an outside shot can be worth up to four points. During each home game, the Frost Heaves also choose a "local celebrity" to be an honorary member of the team, and this particular night was Middlebury Night — featuring Russ Reilly. The College's former athletic director and current assistant Men's Basketball coach, Reilly was given the chance to dress in a Frost Heaves uniform and sit on the bench with the promise that if the home team had a strong enough lead, he could go into the game to play a few minutes.

Sporting brand new Frost Heaves t-shirts, we scored seats right behind the home bench where we joined in spirited cheering for Reilly and the heckling of Frenzy showboat Rob Sanders. As expected, we watched these talented athletes drain three-pointers from five feet outside the arc and complete some impossible drives to the basket. What I did not expect was an exciting game of basketball.

The Frost Heaves and the Frenzy swapped leads back-and-forth throughout the nail-biter game, and owing partly to the team's depth, the Frost Heave's play was not a one-man show. Cape Cod, on the other hand, stayed in the game thanks in part to the talent of Sanders, but as the Frost Heaves began to pull away, Sanders' frustration and laziness mounted until he eventually stopped playing any defense at all. The crowd got what they wanted. The Frost Heaves were able to seal the game 119 to 113, maintaining enough of a lead for Reilly to get in the game for the final seconds of play.

It wasn't the Bahamas, but all in all, seeing our former athletic director in uniform playing alongside nine towering professional basketball players made up for any boredom and loneliness we had to endure on campus over the break.

—Katherine Gura '10



Courtesy

Former Athletic Director Russ Reilly was drafted by the Frost Heaves for an ABA game over the Feb break.

Reilly was given the chance to dress in a Frost Heaves uniform and sit on the bench with the promise that if the home team had a strong enough lead, he could go into the game to play a few minutes.

Students seek staff for stress solutions

Learn about on-campus resources that can help you cope

By Kate Lupo
STAFF WRITER

College students deal with stress on a regular basis. From the classroom to the athletic fields, students juggle different responsibilities and face the pressures of performing well at an elite academic institution. While some students may have established their own methods of dealing with stress at Middlebury, others could use a helping hand.

The Center for Teaching, Learning and Research (CTLR), located at the back of the New Library, is one resource available to students who seek anxiety and academic-related advice. The Center offers workshops designed to help students relieve academic stress and staff available to advise students on anything from time management to healthy living.

Director of Learning Resources Yonna McShane helps students structure a manageable schedule.

McShane said that she helps "students structure their schedules, while also making room for other activities such as work, play, sleep and leisure time." She acknowledged the stressful demands on college students, but reiterated that it is important to maintain healthy sleep, study and eating habits.

"Eat healthy foods as well," says McShane. Sometimes stress becomes so strong that it decreases appetite and makes us think we don't need as much to eat. This is not true."

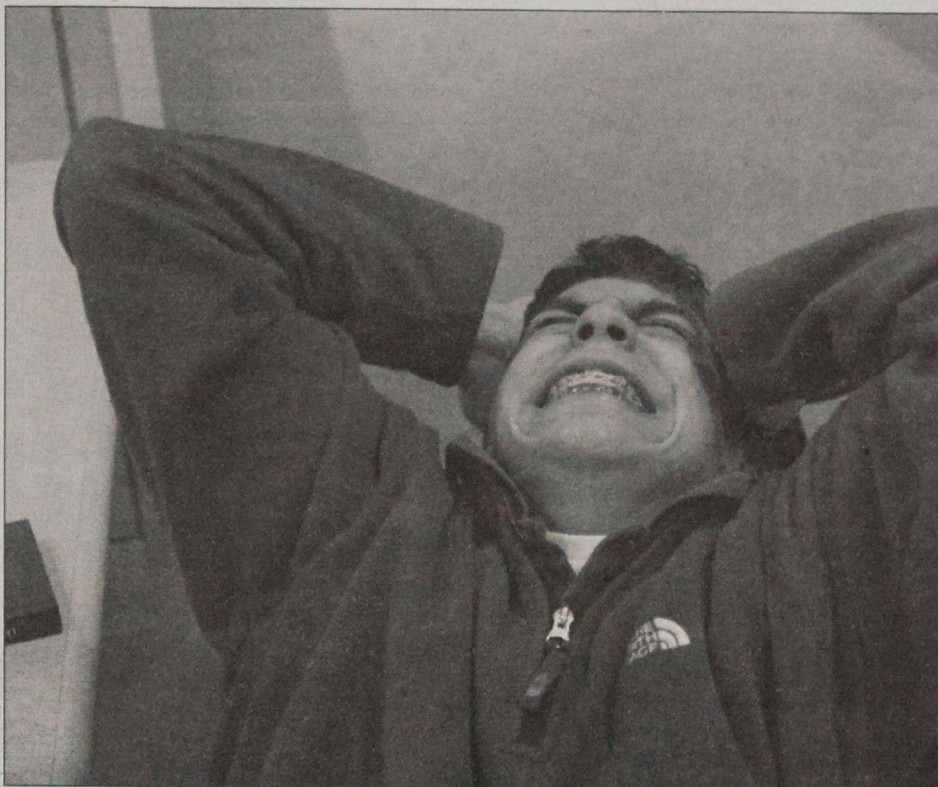
McShane advises students to "try to get at least seven to nine hours of sleep per night and to separate study space from sleeping space."

And there's more — students can take McShane's relaxation techniques home with them on a cd.

"Listen to my voice, follow directions and relax," begins McShane in the calming recording, before asking the listener to "transport yourself to a place where you are safe, relaxed, calm and peaceful."

At the end of the CD, the listener is told to imagine an "egg filled with relaxation cracking over your head and spreading over your body."

Testifying to the help that CTLR can offer, Kasima Brown '09.5, who has met with McShane, said, "Yonna is a great person and has helped me when I needed to relax. I love her. We hug."



Ilhan Kim

Johnny Garces '09 demonstrates the wrong way of venting stress-related rage and frustration.

As stress becomes anxiety, or before it does, students may seek help in the Counseling & Human Relations Center, located on the third floor of Parton Health Center. Director of the Center for Counseling and Human Relations Gary Margolis, said that it is important "to recognize the tipping point when stress becomes dis-stress." Sometimes, to alleviate stress, Margolis said students may indulge themselves in too much of something — like exercise — which can become unhealthy.

"Vulnerability of body image in young adults in a very real thing and it exists on every college campus," said Margolis. He stressed the necessity of noticing bad eating habits, reminding students that the College has an Eating Disorder Team, which can help with problems concerning body image.

Right outside of Margolis' office rests a bowl full of little plastic bags filled with tiny objects — perhaps all a stressed out student needs. Each bag contains a card that reads "The Anti-Stress Kit," while the text beneath explains that each object in the bag fulfills a stress-relieving purpose. The mini eraser, for

example, is meant "to make little mistakes disappear," while the string is there "to hold it together when it all seems to be falling apart." Although small and seemingly meaningless, the tiny bag can provide a small dose of comfort to someone in need.

For those who might need more than a goody bag of sorts to feel like they are making progress in combatting their stress, the counseling staff on campus is available to all students. As one sophomore noted, "The counselors help steer you in the right direction. There is no permanent counseling on campus, but the staff listens to your problems and helps you make the next step."

The trick is knowing where to find the right staff, what resources exist on the Middlebury campus, and whom one can turn to for guidance.

"I was really overwhelmed with work in the beginning of the year," said one first-year student, "so I went to my academic advisor. I asked him, 'How can I more effectively manage my time?' I was hoping he would give me a good answer, but instead he stared at me blankly and then said, 'I have no idea.'"



newton's laws

by Thomas Newton

Honda has had the dream of creating a humanoid robot since 1986 when its engineers set out to create a machine that could simulate human motion. Twenty one years of research and experimentation later they have created the Asimo, a robot that resembles a miniature space man that can "run, walk on uneven slopes and surfaces, turn smoothly, climb stairs and reach and grasp for objects," according to Honda's official Asimo website (www.asimo.honda.com). It can also comprehend and respond to simple commands and can recognize the faces of its owners.

Honda has big plans for its technological marvel. Currently, its goal is to have the Asimo serve as an assistant to the elderly and physically handicapped. Ultimately, Honda's goal is to see the Asimo serve as an assistant to all people in a variety of situations.

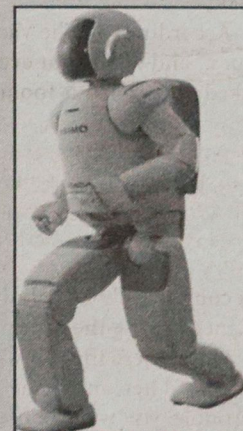
The intersection of robots and humans has been an idea present in science fiction

for more than half a century, but Honda, with its vast resources and technical know-how has made this science fiction fantasy a very plausible reality. A quick search on Youtube.com will show clips of the machine climbing stairs, serving people drinks, running around cones on an obstacle course and walking hand in hand with a woman. But how will the Asimo fit into society? Will it gain the same kind of popularity as the rest of the major technological innovations of the past century? Will robots take over the world?

The Asimo could very well be the next must-have household appliance. It will conceivably be able to clean, cook and do laundry. It will be able to take over jobs that were once only achievable by humans. It could be used in war, as a bomb deactivator or a scout. A simple wireless connection to the Internet will give it nearly limitless amounts of information. In short, the Asimo could turn out to be the smartest hunk of metal and plastic ever assembled by humans.

This smart hunk of metal and plastic, however, with its charming, modern looks and its unassuming pre-teen voice is not as innocent as it may seem. If it does gain popularity and become widely used, not only will it eat up resources to produce, charge and maintain, but it will also add to our already overwhelming amount of electronic waste. It could force more workers out of jobs than did the automation of production lines, as it will be capable of assuming more advanced occupations.

For now, the Asimo is more of a threat in theory than reality. Honda's plan to produce and sell it as an assistant to those in need is commendable, and the technology in the machine itself is impressive, but it is still years away from being the type of machine Hollywood portrays as the robot of the future.



CARIBENA CUPID



Chris Heinrich

Canoodling and crooning fills the air during the Alianza Latinoamericana y Caribena and African American Alliance Valentine's Day Dinner on Friday. The dinner, entitled "Spice up your Life" featured live music and spicy Caribbean fare.

Musk-ox or seal skin? All you need to for snow survival

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

What to Wear?

When heading out into this frozen wasteland, what you use to keep your body warm will be your most important decision. Dressing for cold weather revolves around one simple principle: air pockets that trap in heat. That's right, layers of air are your best hope for staying toasty when the temperature bottoms out. But what if you didn't spring for the goose down jacket? What if you got lost with only a fleece? You are going to need some basic solutions, and fast. Read on for some natural ways to keep warm.

Seal: Is a waterproof skin, but bad in extremely cold climates. This is the ideal skin if you are sledding or engaging in a snowball fight.

Bear: Incredibly warm, and even better than seal for waterproof comfort. The one draw back of the bearskin is its heavy weight.

Musk-Ox: Carries the same problem as bear skin in that it is very warm, but very heavy. Also, musk-ox is very hard to keep clean. Though it may not seem that important right now, you'll thank us when the rescue party arrives. I can't tell you the amount of times I see people rescued wearing musk-ox, and even their own family stays at an arm's length!

Hare/Fox: Both of these animals provide the warmth of the bear and musk-ox, but are way too delicate to go climbing through the forest or journeying to find your way back to civilization. You'll reduce yourself to icy cold rags.

Caribou skin: For all intents and purposes, caribou skin is the best material for your money. Caribou have an incredibly strong hide, which is also incredibly light and very warm. The only problem is that caribou are mainly found in the Alaskan and Canadian Arctic. So you aren't going to be able to utilize its amazingly warm fur.

Campus Recommendation: If you are adventurous, you could go into a cave, awaken a bear and then take his hide. Seeing as bears are not morning animals, and you are probably going to have only your hands to defend yourself when the whole family wakes up, it is probably a better idea just to stick with the jacket on your back.

Where to live?

Being trapped in the wilderness with three feet of snow all around you poses quite a predicament. Luckily, the native peoples of the Arctic are most helpful in the area of snow dwelling construction. The first step involves acquiring whalebone or an antler.

Unless you are very lucky, whalebone will be hard to come by in the Green Mountains. We recommend a nice piece of antler. This will serve as your knife when constructing your new home. You will want to find snow of a harder consistency, so search for sunny areas where the snow had the opportunity to partially melt and then freeze. Cut out a large rectangular block and

put it to your immediate right. Welcome to your new home. Right now, you are standing in the living room/kitchen/family room/bedroom/ bonus room.

Keep using the knife to cut the blocks from the snow and then place them in a circle. After you have made a complete circle, trim another layer and start building up the wall until you have created a dome-like structure. Don't get too comfortable though, there's still more work to be done! Make a large snow table/bed in the corner of the room. Gather some twigs and place them on the bed, for drying. Remember what we said about how air keeps you warm? It will do you a great service to make a smaller room off the entrance to your main room. This will serve the primary purpose of keeping cold air out, and you will find it very useful for the hunting you are about to do.

What to eat?

We're gonna give it to you straight. It's probably best to stop thinking about Ross pizza when your tummy starts to growl. It ain't happening. As the indigenous people have done for centuries, your diet will consist of meat, and a whole lot of it. Usually, an Arctic Native American will eat six to seven pounds of raw animal flesh a day. This may seem like a lot, but after constructing a home for yourself and enduring the psychological stress of starting a new life in the Green Mountains, you will be quite surprised at how large your appetite can grow. Again, caribou is your best bet, because you can get about 200 pounds of meat, and their droppings are terrific for fuel to keep you warm. But again, you will be hard pressed to find caribou in the lower 48 states.

Brown bear and wolf are both great choices, except for the fact that you got lost snowshoeing, meaning your chances of emerging victorious in a battle against a wolf or bear are quite slim.

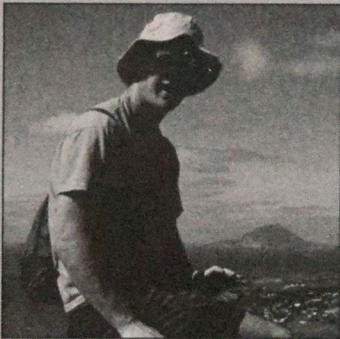
You aren't missing out on much. While both animals have a lot of great meat, which some old texts say can be eaten raw, their livers are rich in vitamin A, which people indigenous to cold weather climates found poisonous.

Remember that chamber you built outside of your dwelling? Put a hole in the top of it and garnish all around top of the hole with meat(it looks like you may have to beat that wolf after all). Then, sit inside and wait for a bird to start nibbling on the meat. Now is your chance to grab him by the feet and eat him. Watch out, those talons are going to be sharp! There is no need to feel ashamed. If Ernest Hemmingway killed birds in Parisian parks for sustenance when times were dire, so can you.

Pretty soon, you will become so adjusted to wilderness life, you'll forget all about Amanda and John or your silly homework. Doesn't homework seem so silly now! Maybe in the spring you will not even leave; you will just keep living in the great outdoors. Eventually, the search party will find you, but you will love the outdoors so much you'll fight them with rocks and arrows. Then they will overwhelm you with force and drag you away to an insane asylum, where you will live out the rest of your days. Have fun in the snow everyone!

—Joe Bergan

15 minutes with....Doug Hale '07



Childhood Ambition...Truck Driver
Greatest Fear...Tapeworms
Inspiration... Sean Meany
Soundtrack...Bat out of Hell II: Back Into Hell — by Meatloaf
Dining Hall Indulgence...every flavor of ice cream at once, with cake
Last non school related purchase in Middlebury ...Orange Crush ticket
Retreat...the greenhouse on 6th floor Bi Hall

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check it, homeslice.

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

Wigmakers

Britney's bald head

Although it's too soon to tell what ramifications Britney's actions will have on this dying trade, we're sure it's the next big thing.

Will someone please save this girl from herself?

Playing in snow

Sleeping in snow forts

Three feet of snow lends itself to some serious snow ball fights.

Unimaginable horror.

Bridget Moynahan

Tom Brady

Blessed art the fruit of they womb.

Super Bowl MVP, model, da baby daddy.

Vaginas Rising

The Monologues
return to raise
awareness and
spread the love



Review by Grace Duggan
Photography by Chris Heinrich

The Valentine's Day tradition that has caught on all over the country was on display at Middlebury last Sunday with two sold-out performances of 1975 alumnus Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues." The event raised money for WomenSafe, an organization that is working to eliminate physical, sexual and emotional violence against women and their children. While some have criticized that the monologues are beginning to seem dated and no longer relevant, V-Day continues to draw a crowd to McCullough Social Space.

full review on p. 18

editor's picks

22

**Winter Carnival
Cultural Gala**
CFA Lower Lobby
4:30 p.m.

Performances by Middlebury College a cappella as well as well as children's activities organized by student run groups. The Middlebury College Museum of Art will be open to the public until 7 p.m.

22

**Winter Carnival
Ice Show**
Kenyon Arena
7:30 p.m.

"Around the World in 80 Minutes" is the theme for this year's ice show. The Middlebury Figure Skating Club will be joined by guest Ross Miner, the 2006 United States National Intermediate Men's Champion who is originally from Williston, VT. Repeat performance the following evening.

23

Owen Smith
McCullough
Social Space
7:30 and 9:30

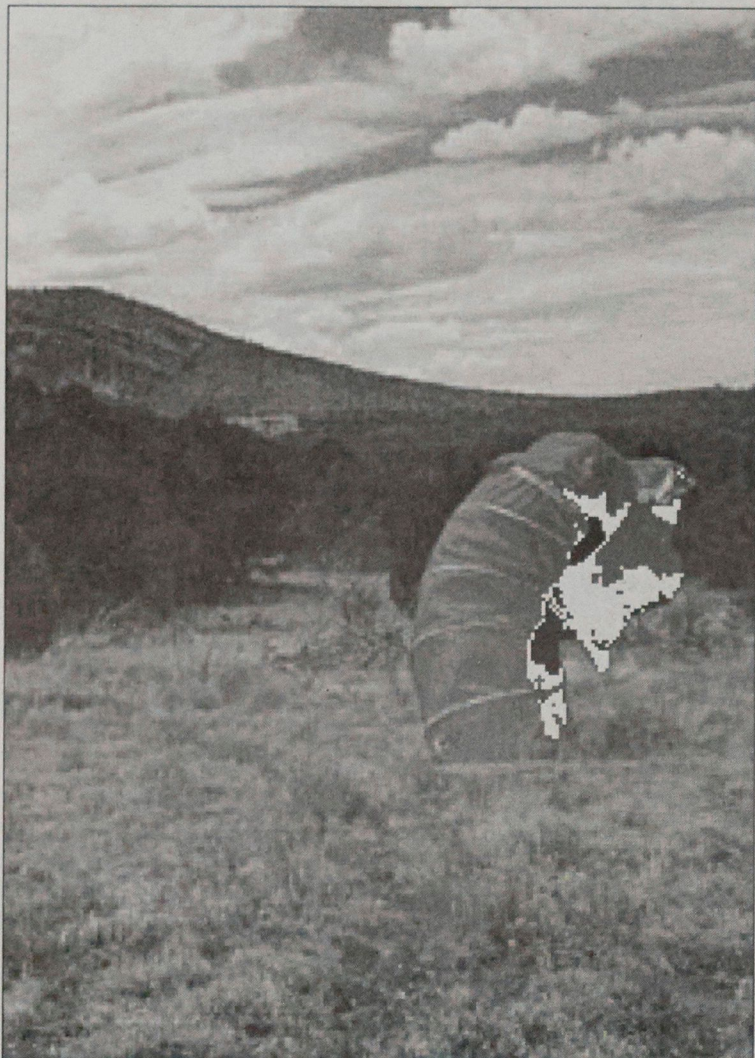
After performing on NBC's Friday Night, BET's Comic View, HBO's Def Comedy Jam and the ABC hit sitcom Cupid, Owen Smith will bring his unique brand of comedy to Middlebury.

23

Borat
Dana Auditorium
4:30, 7:00 and
10 p.m.

Kazakhstan, "I like you," "You're nice" — need we say more? Come see this conversial film that turns practical jokes into practicing politics.

Musical horizons are expanded, if not improved



By Kelsey Smith
ARTS EDITOR

You know that option when you create a Facebook invite that says you are promising a “night of mayhem?” Well it was promised and wholly delivered Saturday night at the Gamut Room, which played host to Fat Worm of Error — a costume-wearing, pandemonium-causing noise-rock group from Western Massachusetts.

The evening started in a seemingly normal way, with excited attendees waiting around the Gamut Room for Thompson and Co. to arrive with the necessary equipment — passing the time with some Annie’s Mac & Cheese and some guilty pleasure ’90s music on the stereo. Then a Fat Worm of Error walked in, a mild-mannered man in a colorful shirt with a reddish handlebar mustache, and asked where he might park his van. We offered a “how-to” for finding parking at Middlebury, and ten minutes later, met him and his band mates outside to start unloading their equipment. Usually loading in a band involves carrying instruments and heavy suitcases full of electrical equipment. Fat Worm of Error had equipment, but every other trip was dedicated to carrying costumes.

The student band Pluto, led by Thompson Davis ’08.5 with Paxson Woelber ’07.5, Chris Rominger ’08 and Nick Barone ’08, kicked off the evening with their particular brand of indie-ish rock that does not take itself too seriously. Davis does not write lyrics down, a fact that he expressed some reservations about, though I find it to be one of the best parts of their music. The delivery of the lines that popped into Davis’ head were reminiscent of John Darnielle of the Mountain Goats. Subject matter ranged from a play on the phrase “Study Abroad” (use your imagination) to the quickly gentrifying corners of Brooklyn.

After Pluto’s set, Fat Worm of Error set up — a process which included putting bean bag chairs over the fake rocks as to avoid any injury that might result from their thrashing about. Then they started. I almost did not notice the point when Fat Worm of Error went from plug-

ging stuff in and messing around with equipment to actually starting their performance. I have not experienced any noise rock since I attended a concert by a group called Casio Kids on a pretend pirate boat last year in Paris.

Fat Worm of Error describes their music as “self-produced, high density calisthenics,” and their live shows as “spasmodic, costumed rituals.” I would generally agree.

It is difficult to explain noise rock, even though it really is exactly what the name implies: a bunch of sounds, from actual instruments to incessant beeping effects, combined to make noise. In the case of Fat Worm of Error it was accompanied by a type of free-association speaking/yelling/rambling performed by one of the band members and a whole lot of costumes for what was a 30-minute set. The result moved most people to laughter, mostly out of discomfort, but one also got the feeling that it was okay to laugh. The band members acknowledged a certain degree of ridiculousness in what they were doing.

Fat Worm of Error would not (and did not) appeal to a wide variety of people at Middlebury but such events suggest some semblance of an alternative music scene on campus. Despite the fact that the event was not well attended it was rewarding to see that the people who did show up were enjoying themselves and that the show even managed to attract some passersby who were drawn in when they saw the eight foot tall chicken costume through the glass doors of the Gamut Room.

This difficult task of providing another option to the majority is a mission that WRMC has devoted itself to. Every concert that comes to Middlebury does not have to be an event that will cost the college upwards of \$30,000. Events such as the one hosted by WRMC Friday night are the perfect vehicle, and the Gamut Room the perfect location, for bringing new music to Middlebury. The only more perfect location for such get-togethers is Coltrane but I suppose it would be better if the floor of the building didn’t collapse while we’re all watching crazy people make noise in costumes.

Courtesy
Fat Worm of Error brings mayhem to the fields of Western Massachusetts by roaming the outdoors in a slinky worm costume.

MCAB tries to balance mass appeal and musical integrity



Indie heroes, The Format, broke onto the scene big with their 2006 release, *Dog Problems*.

Courtesy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

return. “We had a lot of success with Jurassic 5 and Wyclef Jean, but we thought it was time to have more of a rock band. When we were presented with the idea of Guster, we jumped on it, especially since they’re touring in promotion of a new album.”

Reisa Bloch ’09 agreed, “Having Guster for Spring Concert will be a nice change from the rappers that have performed over the last few years.”

The band’s latest album, *Ganging Up on the Sun*, was received with relative critical acclaim and labeled one of their catchiest and most melodic endeavors when it came out last June.

A July 2006 issue of *Spin Magazine* applauded the release, assuring fans that, “the band’s pop instincts are craftier than ever. These songs might even reach past the keg party.”

The Format, an Arizona based band who turned heads with their sophomore release, *Dog Problems*, is sure to appeal to the more musically elite members on campus. However, with their catchy beats, infectious sound, and discernible hooks, The Format deftly avoid the pitfalls that seem to make other hipster-approved bands unapproachable.

“Our goal is to serve the widest audience,” said Jesse. “Other organizations such as WRMC can push the envelope when it comes

to their programming, it doesn’t work as well with us.”

Guster’s notoriety as a classic collegiate combo, however, was not the only influencing factor of MCAB’s decision. The organization worked to make a selection that would meet MiddKid demands. Before making their final decision, MCAB sent out surveys to gauge the musical preferences of the Middlebury Campus. And along with input from a college booking agent, MCAB consulted the bountiful well of personal information available on students’ Facebook profiles.

“It’s a long, frustrating process of trying to satisfy the largest audience possible

and getting the most bang for the buck,” said Jesse. “We even looked around on Facebook, and Guster had 190 people who listed them as their favorite band, while Led Zeppelin had only about 70.”

The innocuous, acoustically-driven troupe, along with the fellow New England favorite, Dispatch, are also the inspiration for a Facebook group aptly named, “I Love Guster and Dispatch.” But only fourteen members subscribe to such a high level of devotion.

Before performing at Middlebury, the trio from Tufts University will play major shows at the Beacon Theatre in New York and The Opera House in Boston.

Guster Fun Facts

The band was first named “Gus” until learning over 1,000 people had taken the name.

The large stuffed animal featured on the cover of the *Parachute EP* is named The Big Friend.

The Big Friend was given to percussionist Brian Rosenworcel for his eighth birthday.

The trio allegedly met on a campus tour bus during their freshman orientation at Tufts University

Dancers toe a paradoxical border

By Beth Conolly
STAFF WRITER

"I'm really quite unsure about which part of me is wasted. Trapped in flesh which doesn't seem to be responding the way that other people's flesh seems to," says a member of the troupe "Dancing Across Borders." Though his words were evocative, the true power of his expression came from his movement: he leapt and writhed in irregular, frenetic patterns that nearly curbed his ability to speak. The dance was an exaltation gone awry, twisted into a show of despair.

What distinguishes the troupe is that each of its performances is entirely improvisational and every performance is a different take on the same structure with five solos. One of the performers described performing dance improvisations as a "state of grace," uniting spontaneity and the unknown. Another described it as a "spiritual experience of being out of and in control at the same time." Group improvisation requires risk-taking and trusting the balance of working together. Most of all, the dancers explained, it is important to take responsibility for what is brought to the moment; anything can succeed if the dancer doesn't abandon it.

The troupe consists of five artists: Paul Matteson, Lin Snelling, Michael Reinhart, Pamela Newell and Robert Bergner. Based in Montreal and New Hampshire, the dancers share roots in both Canada and New England — Matteson and Bergner are Middlebury alumni.

Not only do they cross the border of nationality, but they also hope to cross the borders between arts, blending dancing, writing and singing through motion, words and music.

The performance began with only one dancer on the stage. As he sat with his guitar, he continued to fumble with it and nearly drop it, making a percussive beat accentuated by the twang of his grabbing the strings. He then began to write on an imaginary chalkboard, scrawling line after line until he was forced to lie on the stage in order to reach the bottommost region of the chalkboard. In previous shows, the dancers explained, they generally utilize an old-fashioned chalkboard and chalk as their only props. Though Friday's performance physically lacked the chalkboard, the dancers' motions were often informed by the idea of writing or erasing.

This was only one example of the way that the dancers' movements seemed to be inspired by the gestures that populate reality. Often, these were gestures that indicated direction: beckoning to the audience, pointing to places onstage.

"Come together," one dancer repeated as he drew the other dancers toward him. Gradually, the dancers gathered into one clump, hanging onto each other so as to completely eliminate the space between them. Together, their dance was a tentative balance of joined



Ilhan Kim

Paul Matteson enthralled viewers with his experimental movements.

motion. This was the only time in the performance when all of the dancers occupied the same space; and though they did, their distinct identities unquestionably persisted.

The highlight of the show — motion inspired by gesture — was a full-troupe dance that followed a monologue on fingerprinting. The dancers pressed their fingers onto imaginary passports, dragging them through the air. Though the dancers did not move in unified or choreographed patterns, their individual dances complemented each other. They functioned together in a pleasing contrast between frantic, fast, rushing motion and slow, contemplative lulls and pauses. This departure from a realistic gesture to an abstraction exemplified the show's two extremes.

The dancers also incorporated improvisational music into the performance, using, at different times, a guitar, a cello, an accordion, a tambourine, a piano, a harmonica and percussion. The instruments lent the show an added

dimension, providing both accompaniment and a dynamic sense of pace. In a way, voice functioned as an instrument as well: words spoken while dancing had the same complementary effect that background music did, heightening the emotional force already present in the dancers' motions.

The performance was so cohesive, compellingly and intricately executed, that it could easily have been choreographed. The dancers moved in harmony with one another while and solos spoke to similar themes: the search for self, the tension between individual action and group belonging and the articulation, through movement, of varying definitions of being. Perhaps the most powerful aspect of the performance was its effective communication of emotion, whether it was loneliness, frustration or wistfulness. Through the union of music, word and motion, "Dancing Across Borders" succeeded in an aesthetic representation of experience.



for the record

by Emily Temple

Glorious day. *We Were Dead Before the Ship Even Sank*, Modest Mouse's newest album, to be released March 20, 2007, has leaked to the internet. I almost can't believe that it's been three years since *Good News for People Who Love Bad News*, but it has.

This new album, which Isaac Brock called "a nautical balalaika carnival romp" has been anxiously awaited by fans who were either disappointed by or introduced to the band through their previous album. The anticipation has been heightened by the new addition to the band — indie rock royalty Johnny Marr, best known as the guitarist for The Smiths, who officially became a Mouse in August of 2006, not to mention the guest appearance by James Mercer of The Shins.

It shames me (sort of) to admit that I was one of those holier-than-thou, disapproving snobs when I first heard my beloved Modest Mouse on MTV. Even though 2000's *The Moon and Antarctica* was their first album on Epic, it was really with *Good News for People Who Love Bad News* in 2004 that Modest Mouse became a major label band.

There's something disquieting about the masses having access to brilliance, and whether this makes me a horrid snob or not, I generally don't think they deserve it. Okay, that's kind of harsh. But I do believe that there's something to be said for those who go out and proactively find music (or fashion, or films, or books) that speak to them, rather than simply sucking up the preachings of whatever popular culture station is most prominent at the moment.

To my own credit, even after "Float On" became the sweet ear-fodder for Walmart shoppers everywhere, and even once I started seeing the lyrics to "Grey Ice Water" pop up in cheerleaders' AIM profiles, I refused to denounce them, as some of my über-hip friends could not help from doing.

It's even worse because I really like "Float On." And, to charmingly segue, the first single on *We Were Dead Before the Ship Even Sank* reminds me of it — "Dashboard" is a bouncy, sunny winner, easily edible by all the MTV kiddies, but still at least somewhat satisfying to veterans.

The album as a whole is similar: it's pop-pier than anything we've heard from them before, following the trajectory started by *Good News*. Although in some places it sounds like the band is nostalgic for *The Moon and Antarctica* — "Parting of the Sensory" in particular seems almost out of place in its sprawling instrumentalism and sonic landscaping. But in general, this new album has a bigger, brighter sound, with snappy Franz Ferdinand-ish horns and much higher guitar production values, perhaps thanks to the addition of Johnny Marr. I'm not one to kick my chucks and cry "over-production," especially here, where it mostly works. However, I do miss the genius of raw tracks like "Heart Cooks Brain," one of my favorites from *The Lonesome Crowded West*, or *The Fruit that Ate Itself* in general.

Modest Mouse's albums have been consistently plagued by a tendency of some tracks to bleed together, and *We Were Dead Before the Ship Even Sank* is no different. In fact, it seems like the tracks are even more similar to one another than usual, giving the album an unappealing "background music" feel some of the time. I was excited about the addition of James Mercer, singer and songwriter for The Shins, on three tracks: "We've Got Everything," "Florida" and "Missed the Boat."

We Were Dead Before the Ship Even Sank is a decent album, especially after repeated listens. Certain tracks stand out, like "Spitting Venom," which sounds like that song from *Aladdin*, with a huge, screaming, guitar-crazy bit in the middle, and "Fire it Up" — my bet for their second single. However, it marks a continuation of a pattern that I feel moves Modest Mouse away from their best material.

The new album is tepid at worst and inconsistent at best, but there are bright moments. It is definitely worth a listen, if only to remind you of the genius of Isaac Brock's gruff whine and his years of creepy, anxious, fantastic albums.

When it gets cold, MiddKids get creative



Chris Heinrich

While many of us curled up with a cup of cocoa and dug into our massive amounts of reading, others burrowed into the two feet of snow dumped by Wednesday's blizzard. Strolling throughout the picturesque campus on a rare day of cancelled classes, one was able to witness many incarnations of student self-expression. Whether it was the various snow-angels, provocative and entertaining hand-written messages, endearing snowpeople or even alternative modes of housing, students' ingenuity did not take the day off. However, students were foiled in their attempts to sleep in their newly constructed abodes due to freezing temperatures and the risk of snowplows.



Regally Blonde

By Astri von Arbin Ahlander

Let's talk fashion. And politics. Your body may be your temple, but it is also your own personal billboard. Use it wisely. Expressing your political views on this valuable advertising space is a great idea, as long as you are willing to stand up for your beliefs. Original homemade varieties are my favorite. I can't see a kid with a hand-painted t-shirt urging the down-fall of this or the other without smiling. It's not only daring, it's creative. As for commercially produced political imagery on clothing, we're in different, deeper waters. Che Guevara's face has, by this point, basically ceased to stand for anything more than a marketable icon to mass print on t-shirts and sell to middle-class kids. But, whether or not you're wearing a paisley print of the guy, you are projecting a certain message and you should be aware of what that message is.

Over the past couple of years, I have begun to see an increasing amount of Soviet symbols floating around on the clothing of young people everywhere. Whether it is the hammer and sickle on big fur hats or the letters CCCP across sweatshirts, every time I see an example of it, it makes me flinch. It's been less than two decades after the fall of the Iron Curtain, and have we already forgotten? Or worse, we never really knew.

It is a common fact that the victors write history. After Hitler turned on Stalin in 1941, the Soviet Union allied against Germany. When Germany lost the war, the Soviet Union stood as a winner alongside Western democracies despite its leader, Josef Stalin, being another democracy-loathing dictator with his own reign of terror. During his time in power, Stalin staged a mass famine that killed nearly ten million people through his forced agricultural collectivization. He ordered mass-arrests and subsequent executions of millions more. He created a society of informants, where everyone was afraid of everyone else, and where anyone ran the risk of being classified a class enemy — a crime punishable by death.

Even before Hitler was gassing his victims to death, the NKVD in the Soviet Union were experimenting with shutting people into closed trucks with the exhaust-pipe leading inside.

And what of censorship? The destruction of irreplaceable pieces of art and the banning of forbidden literature left deep gashes in the country's rich cultural heritage. As late as 1990, when I was living in the Soviet Union, our Russian friends would beg us to smuggle them forbidden books from Sweden. How can intelligent, educated members of the Middlebury community — a community lauding the cultivation of the mind — proudly be wearing the symbols of such oppression?

Somehow, during Stalin's reign of terror, the rest of the world accepted much of what was going on in the Soviet Union without daring to ask too many questions. I am from Sweden, a country whose actions during this time and relationship to the Soviet Union throughout its history do not make me proud. But I'm not about to perpetuate that shameful passivity now.

The hammer and sickle, the symbol of the Soviet Union, also stands as a symbol for the terror that went on within that Union. When we see our friends wearing the Soviet symbol, most of us don't bat an eye. Many of us think it's cool. Retro. Alternative. I don't see that. I see the nauseating numbers 15-50: the estimated millions of people who lost their lives under that symbol.

V-Day, giving the vag a voice

By Grace Duggan
STAFF WRITER

Once a year, the word "vagina" is used repeatedly by a group of Middlebury women in the McCullough Social Space. Taboos are challenged and confronted as women talk openly about their vaginas. They fake orgasms, elaborate on their sex lives, marvel at the process of giving birth, criticize spouses who do not like pubic hair and share intimate, often painful moments from their past. They perform "The Vagina Monologues."

Written by Eve Ensler '75 in 1996 (and directed this year by Myra Palmero, Leah Day, Meg Young and Sally Swallow, all Class of 2007), "The Vagina Monologues" grew out of more than 200 interviews Ensler conducted with women of all ages, ethnicities and sexual orientations. The play would go on to win an Obie Award, a prestigious award given to Off- and Off-Off-Broadway works.

The overall tone of "The Vagina Monologues" this year was noticeably more lighthearted, as the cast had audience members laughing frequently during almost every monologue. Concerning the tone and direction of the show this year, co-director Day said they wanted "to make it more approachable for everyone in the community."

"Also, there was a better mix of actors and non-actors than there's ever been," noted Laura Harris '07. Claire Graves '09.5 and Emily Kron '09.5 performed the controversial "The Little Coochie Snorcher That Could," a monologue that has been criticized for its alleged distinction between "good" and "bad" rape. Harris brought the house down with her strong and hysterical portrayal of a sex-worker with an all-female clientele in the monologue "The Woman Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy." While she was not the only member of the cast to fake an orgasm, she stood out as she imitated all of the different moans she had come across in her line of work, including a humorous "Middlebury Moan."

Saila Huusko's '10 performance of "My Vagina Was My Village," a monologue that focuses on the violent and horrifying rape of a Bosnian woman by soldiers, stood out not only because of the depth and pain Huusko brought to the monologue, but also because it was the only monologue that did not rely on humor to con-



Chris Heinrich

The cast of "The Vagina Monologues" emphatically demonstrate what a vagina wants.

nect with the audience. Jackie Antonson's '10 turn as an elderly woman telling her therapist about an embarrassing incident involving sexual arousal in "The Flood" was well-received. She brought a sharp wit and strong comic timing to the monologue, but as in other parts of "The Vagina Monologues," the emphasis on a more humorous interpretation of the lines was noticeably stronger this year. Another difference this year was the inclusion of a new monologue written by Liz Lyon '07. Lyon performed the monologue with Associate Dean of Affairs Karen Guttentag, Chrissy Etienne '07 and Kerren McKeeman '07.5. Lyon's motivation to write her own monologue sprang from her desire to "feel that I was representing something that I felt a personal connection to." Her monologue looked at the complicated question of what defines rape and sexual assault.

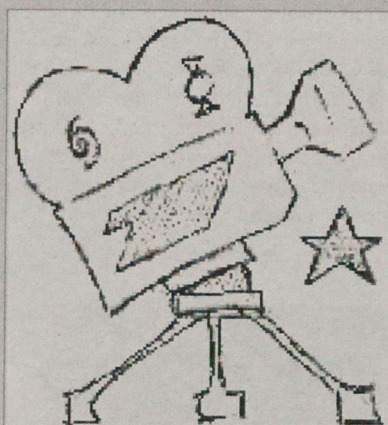
"What I wanted to reflect in my monologue was the complexity and normalcy and ambiguity of sexual violence in day-to-day life... focusing on the extreme [violent] cases can be a way of ignoring the sexual violence and vagina disrespect we go through every day in our life," Lyon said. Her monologue's inclusion of a lesbian pressured into having sex with another woman without violence (Etienne) and of a woman who ignores the extreme pain she feels while having sex with her boyfriend (McKeeman) distorted the typical and prevalent per-

ception of rape.

All of the proceeds from "The Vagina Monologues" will be donated to WomenSafe. WomenSafe is an independent organization whose mission it is to work "towards the elimination of physical, sexual and emotional violence against women and their children through direct service, education and social change."

Also on hand outside of the McCullough Social Space were representatives of Planned Parenthood of Northern New England, Middlebury Men Advancing Change (a group that grew out of the recent White Ribbon Campaign) and Vermont Access to Reproductive Freedom.

This year's performance of "The Vagina Monologues" found particular poignancy in light of charges filed late last month against a former Middlebury student who sexually assaulted a female student and tried to assault another. In fact, just one day following the performance of "The Vagina Monologues," the student body received an e-mail regarding a reported sex offense in Brackett House late Friday night. After Guttentag read statistics on kidnapping, rape and other forms of sexual assault that occurred in Vermont in 2005, she paused to remind the audience that Middlebury students and members of the wider Middlebury community are included in these statistics and that violence against women is, unfortunately, an on-campus issue.



THE REEL CRITIC

by Josh Wessler

The Academy Awards might feel a bit repetitive this year. Clint Eastwood directed two of the nominated films. Peter Morgan wrote both "The Last King of Scotland" and "The Queen," and was nominated for the latter. Alex Jennings has roles in "The Queen" and "Babel," both of which are up for major awards. But more important than the apparent consolidation of Hollywood cast and crew (maybe we've started outsourcing) is the continued pandering to the films that "should" be the best. The best example of this (Disclaimer: possibly offensive opinion ahead) is the embarrassing choice of "Crash" for best picture last year. Ultimately, what might be more shocking than crediting a bad movie that everyone wants to win ("Crash") is nominating a good movie that no one expected. (Prime example: Spike Lee, tragically, has never won an Oscar, and was again snubbed for this year's "Inside Man").

On top of this year's Crash Cart (I couldn't resist) is Alejandro González Iñárritu's "Babel." Like his earlier film "Amores Perros," Iñárritu drags us along several story lines, which inevitably

intersect and weave together. The final product, however, is patchy. From the beginning, Iñárritu warns us that expectations are not always true. At first, this type of counterpoint is interesting, until we realize it is to be used throughout the whole film. His toolkit for cracking clichés ends up being just as predictable.

As the movie plods on, these hooks only loosely hold together a fragmented series of scenes, rotating between the three storylines. A film student might identify this detached crosscutting as a fundamental cinematic technique, but Iñárritu has long since left those experiments on the film school floor. He is out to press the message into us until it hurts and we cry. To a limited degree, he is successful. He has a natural eye for framing and lighting, and always includes a moving soundtrack. In the best scene, set in Japan, we take part in a drunken escapade around the city, following a rebellious deaf-mute girl named Chieko (Rinko Kikuchi). A mesmerizing wall of sound drops out and fills our ears with her deafness. This scene, however, highlights the real pleasure that Iñárritu gets out of making movies. His talent lies in photography and the quick, pulsing hits of rough-cut, handheld filming — but it is painful to watch him tell a story.

For all its weaknesses, "Babel" is at least not frivolous; that distinction goes to "The Queen," which most people have already watched with a certain discomfort. This awkwardness is the result of seeing a bland movie that received high marks from just about everyone (kind of like getting an A+ on that fifteen-pager you wrote in one day). "The Queen" begins as a sardonic peek into the stilted life of Queen Elizabeth II, nominal head of Britain, but soon becomes ensnared in the fallout of Princess Diana's death in 1997.

The movie gingerly attempts a political skewering of newly-elected Prime Minister Tony Blair (Michael Sheen), reducing his defense of the Queen to an oedipal complex. It tries to por-

tray him as a two-faced radical who abandoned his plans for governmental reformation, but the film gives up before it swings too far in favor of a substantial point. Sure, one could argue, the value of a royal family is a fair question, but "The Queen" hardly breaks new ground in the debate. Cinematically, the story is much the same, though Steven Frears should get merit for trying to rescue the script. Like strong black tea, which the royal family drinks dutifully each afternoon, the film's mood steeps and settles into something dark, flavorful and, ultimately, cold and remote. Suspended between pity and contempt (and lacking enough background to understand both sides), we end up feeling sort of neutral towards the whole affair. As Prince Charles, Diana's former husband and tacit defender, Alex Jennings best captures the simmering turmoil inside the "establishment," but it's not enough to explain why we're watching this movie. It's clear that "The Queen" has appeal in the United States because there are so many who envy the intrigue of having a superfluous royal class. Maybe this film will lead people to realize that such a class is just a waste of time and money and we won't have to deal with "The Queen II."

Looking at the pitiful nominees for best picture (with two exceptions), one cannot fail to notice the glaring omissions. I say we get rid of the category of best foreign language film, since that list disqualifies them from winning best picture, though, paradoxically, not from lesser categories. With today's cultural fluidity, it seems petty not to acknowledge the obvious presence of foreign films in our culture. Maybe people are scared that if we encourage foreign films too much, American cinema will fade into obscurity — maybe it already has.

In the days before the winners are announced, it is nice to imagine that who we want to win will win. But it's hard to shake the sinking feeling that Hollywood will once again wrap itself in its pork-barrel politics and hibernate until next Oscar season.

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THE WINTER CARNIVAL: INSIDE THE 84TH FEBRUARY FESTIVAL

The Middlebury ski team has finished third in every carnival this year. On their home course, in front of a home-crowd and fueled with home-cooked meals, the Panthers will be looking to finish on top.

Make sure to come out to the Snow Bowl and the Rikert Touring Center on Friday and Saturday to cheer on the skiers. The weather forecast is predicting mild temperatures and a slight chance of snow. There is no excuse not to come, especially since you know the start times.

EVENTS TO WATCH

SLALOM, FEBRUARY 23:

9:30 a.m. — Men's Slalom: First Run, Followed by Women's Slalom
12:30 p.m. — Men's Slalom: Second Run, Followed by Women's Slalom
Where: Middlebury Snow Bowl

NORDIC CLASSIC, FEBRUARY 23:

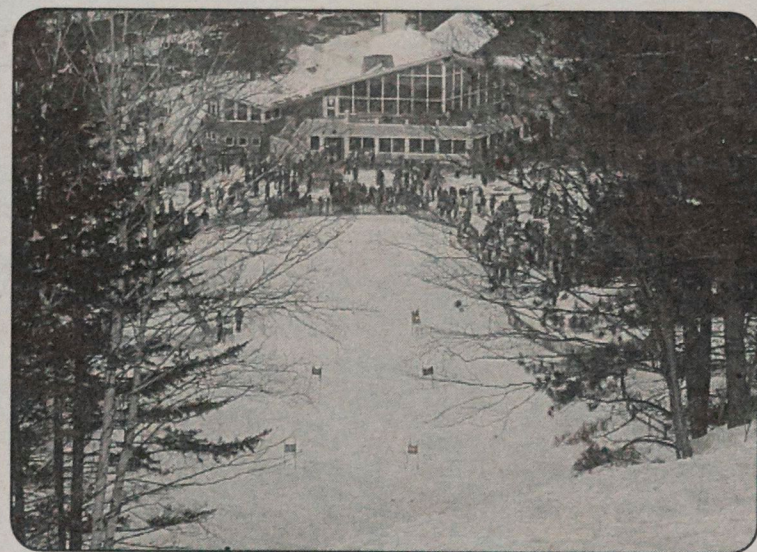
10:00 a.m. — Men's 10K Classic
11:15 a.m. — Women's 5K Classic
Where: Rikert Touring Center at Bread Loaf

GIANT SLALOM, FEBRUARY 24:

9:30 a.m. — Women's GS: First Run, Followed by Men's GS
12:30 p.m. — Women's GS: Second Run, Followed by Men's GS
Where: Middlebury Snow Bowl

NORDIC FREESTYLE, FEBRUARY 24:

10:00 a.m. — Women's 15K Mass Start Freestyle
11:30 a.m. — Men's 20K Mass Start Freestyle
Where: Rikert Touring Center at Bread Loaf



Rich Patterson

TELLING NUMBER

28

Number of Middlebury skiers who have gone on to either ski in or coach skiing in the Olympic Games. Becky Fraser '46, who captained the women's ski team in '44 and '45 was the first Panther to represent the United States, when she competed in the '48 Games in St. Moritz, Switzerland.

Twelve years later Penny Pitou '60 became the first American to win a medal in the downhill, when she won silver at Squaw Valley. Pitou also won a silver in the Giant Slalom at the same Games. With her two medals, she accounted for 20 percent of the entire U.S. team's ten medals.

Also, women's Nordic skier Dorcas Denhartog '87 appeared in three Olympic games: the '88 Games in Calgary, '92 Games in Albertville and the '94 Games in Lillehammer.

WORD ON THE STREET

Skiing is the sport most vulnerable to the rapid changes in climate we're now causing on this planet. Three cheers to Middlebury for taking the lead in making its Snow Bowl facility and ski programs carbon neutral.

—Bill McKibben, in *Mountain Resort Magazine*, Nov. 6, 2006

PANTHER PHOTOS



Rich Patterson

The cross country team ran out to cheer on their skiing brothers at Bread Loaf.



Jeff Patterson

After a semester abroad, Dane Johnson '08.5 will be on his home course Friday.

Women swimmers get lapped by Williams

By Allison Ortega
STAFF WRITER

Riding a six-meet winning streak in a season characterized by unprecedented success, the Women's swimming and diving team entered the NESCAC championship at Williams College's Muir-Samuelson Pool in strong contention for victory.

In the meet's opening event, Barbara Van Der Veer '07, Marika Ross '08, Lindsey Dattels '09 and Katie Remington '10 started the team off with a step in the right direction as they claimed victory in the 200 Freestyle relay.

The ever-impressive Ross followed up with an individual win setting Middlebury and pool records in the 50-yard Butterfly just two events later. Despite two wins in the meet's first three events, the women found themselves in second place behind the Williams Ephs when the first day of competition ended.

On Saturday, during the second day of competition, the Panthers once again brought several spectacular performances. In the 1000-yard Freestyle, Sara Cowie '08 took home the NESCAC crown, while Katie Soja '10 finished just behind in second place.

Meanwhile, Ross continued to dominate the competition as she picked up her third victory of the Championship in the 100-yard Butterfly. Nevertheless, the Ephs maintained their lead and Amherst picked up enough points to move into second place.

Cowie and Ross picked up right where they left off on the final day of competition. First, Cowie claimed her second individual title in the 1650-yard Free. Then, Ross turned in perhaps her most spectacular swim of the championships in the 200-yard Butterfly. Not only did she win the race, but again she did so in record-setting fashion.

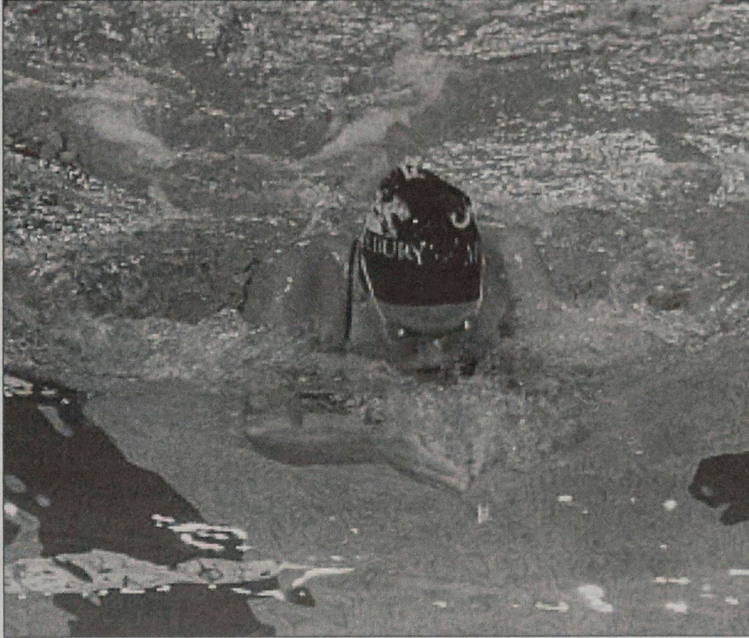
With her time of 2:01:25, Ross set Middlebury, Muir-Samuelson pool, NESCAC Conference, and

NESCAC Championship meet records.

In the team competition, however, the Williams Ephs did not release their stranglehold on the top spot and retained the NESCAC crown for the seventh consecutive year. Yet the meet was still a success for the Panthers.

"Our team really came together to both get pumped up and to pump each other up," said Van der Veer.

In total, thirteen Panthers qualified for the NCAA tournament, a number which is the largest in school history. "It was an incredible meet...the NESCAC is undoubtedly the fastest conference in the nation, so we should definitely be proud," said Cowie. This contingent will head to Houston, Texas March 8-10.



Jeff Patterson

The Panther women had a solid NESCAC Championship, as they finished third.

Skiing wins a bronze again

By Anna Furney
STAFF WRITER

Middlebury's ski team finished third out of fourteen teams over the weekend at Williams' Winter Carnival. Following strong performances by both the men's and women's teams, the Panthers delivered a passionate response to what was a challenging weekend for the team both emotionally and physically. As the race marked the one-year anniversary of teammate Kelly Brush's '08 skiing accident that resulted in a serious and life altering spinal injury, teammates and friends of the College Skiing community were hoping for great performances.

Friday's Giant Slalom races at Jiminy Peak were a success for Dorothy Muirhead '08 who finished the day in second place. "I was surprised and excited that it came together for me," she said. "You always hope to pull into the finish and hear good news, but I certainly wasn't expecting it after my first run. I was able to go all out and take some risks in my second

run thanks to all my teammates finishing and letting me know how the course was running."

Muirhead's second-fastest second run time of 56.31 earned her the second overall position by the day's end. Muirhead's teammates, Lindsay Brush '07 and Kristen Poehling '08 finished sixth and 12th, which gave Midd enough cumulative points to finish first among the team scores for the day's races.

The men's alpine team saw strong performances by Andrew Wagner '08, who finished in second in the GS on Friday. Wagner came in with the fastest second run time of 53.94, moving him into second position overall. Alec Tarberry's '08 tenth place finish and Joey Swenson's '08 11th place finish helped the men move into third position for the day.

Saturday was another strong day for the Middlebury women's squad, as Poehling guarded her sixth position and Muirhead took 11th. Middlebury senior and team captain Lindsay Brush finished 19th for the day, while her two

teammates, Tucker Burton '09 and Leah McLaughry '10 unfortunately found themselves disqualified after confusion over bib numbers and racing order.

On the Nordic side, Cassidy Edwards '09 and Jenny Hamilton '07 finished fifth and sixth in Friday's 10K, and Tim Reynolds '09 was the fastest male finishing 20th.

Saturday's races at the Nordic track of Prospect Mountain were a success for the women, as Hamilton placed fourth and teammate Lizzie Torkelson '07 was close behind in fifth. Robyn Anderson '09 and Claire Luby '10 took seventh and eighth, leaving Middlebury in second for the Women's Classic Sprints.

Middlebury's results after this weekend earned them their fifth straight third-place finish, two spots behind Dartmouth. As Muirhead said, "It was teamwork at its finest." Yet for skiers like Muirhead, "Having Kelly waiting at the finish also gave me a little more 'oomph' in my skiing. That race was for her."

Basketball sees their season end

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

Within three minutes, Middlebury roared out to a 49-38 lead behind dead-eye shooting from Andrew Harris '08, who hit a pair of two's and a three during the spurt. A basket by Mike Walsh '08 at the 13:12 mark extended the Panther lead to 14. With the noise deafening and the student-section bleachers literally shaking, it seemed unfathomable that Middlebury would relinquish the lead.

But then the unthinkable happened. Colby raced out of a timeout with an 8-0 run that ended in a three by Nick Farrell. Farrell ended the game with 22 points for the Mules. According to Evan Thompson '07, Farrell was pivotal in getting Colby back into the game, and ultimately in securing the victory.

"Once Farrell hit a couple of shots from three," said Thompson, "not only did he decrease our lead, but he also opened things up for his teammates."

After that run by Colby, the game remained close down the stretch. The Panthers, nursing a five-point lead at 72-67 with 1:31 to play, failed to make any field goals in regulation. The Mules scored five consecutive points and sent the game into overtime. In overtime, the Panthers simply went on a cold stretch, as the hot shooting that had propelled them to such a large second half lead abandoned them. The Panthers were forced to start fouling as they trailed 80-74 at the 2:46 mark, but to no avail, as the Mules connected on 11 of 13 shots from the free throw line to seal the win.

For those seniors playing in their last game, it was an unfortunate way to go out. For the returning players, this game can only serve as a learning experience as they look to advance deeper into the playoffs next year. "This year, we set the bar for future Middlebury teams," said Smith, "and I think those returning will work even harder to continue this year's success."

editors' picks

Questions of the week:	Brooke Farquhar	Simon Keyes	Jeff Patterson
Will the ski team finally finish better than third at the 84th Winter Carnival?	YES With all the bronze they've been getting, the ski team isn't that tan. Maybe after this weekend they'll be basking in some golden glow (silver's good too).	YES The skiers will use the cowbells rattling at the finish to excite and propel them to better than third. Silver will look nice with all the silver Winter Carnival decorations.	YES The Panthers are the most carnivorous team at the Carnival. Once they sniff the hamburgers at the bottom of the course, they'll ski faster than they ever knew they could.
Which American League team will come out of Spring Training with the best record?	DETROIT TIGERS Spring training doesn't really matter. But based on their performance last season, the Tigers could dominate the AL early on.	LOS ANGELES ANGELS Spring is a showcase of a team's depth of prospects and the Angels have a stacked minor league system. The youngsters will shine with roster spots to fight for.	TORONTO BLUE JAYS Doc Halladay usually does not get injured until later on in the year. Canada's team will enjoy the warm temperatures and win more games than anyone else.
Will FC Barcelona or Liverpool win the first leg of their U.E.F.A. Champions League match today?	BARCELONA Defending the title at home, Barcelona will evaporate Liverpool. Let's not forget the game time advantage as well, Barcelona owns the late night.	NEITHER Liverpool manager Rafael Benitez has never lost in Barcelona, and Steven Gerrard and the Reds will be happy to return home to Anfield with a draw.	BARCELONA I'm going with the team that has three players with three-part names. Ivan Ruben Martinez, Giovanni van Bronckhorst and Giovanni dos Santos will kick some butt.
record:	0-2 (.000)	3-2 (.600)	20-19 (.513)

As Told by A.S.

By Andrew Schlegel

This year's NBA All-Star weekend took place in Las Vegas, Nev. The slam dunk contest followed the three-point shootout and the skills challenge to cap off an impressive Saturday night. Gerald Green of the Boston Celtics revolutionized the dunk contest and sent the crowd home with an acrobatic leap over a three-foot table, which received perfect tens from all of the judges.

Green dominated the dunk contest this year with some of the most original dunks ever seen in an event with not much room for innovation. In the first round, he started with an electrifying two-handed slam on an alley-oop pass off the side of the backboard from teammate Paul Pierce and received a score of 47 points.

For his next dunk, Green jumped over fellow finalist Nate Robinson while wearing the number seven Celtics jersey of '91 dunk champion Dee Brown, shielding his eyes in the crook of his elbow in homage to Brown's memorable Peek-A-Boo dunk.

In the final round, with his windmill jam over the table, Green went for even more and proved beyond doubt that he deserved the title.

Nate Robinson, who lost in the final, had some impressive dunks, but the 5'9" point guard came up short. In the first round, he threw up a pass that he let bounce before he slammed it down with authority. Then, in the final, he threw the ball off the backboard and in mid-air caught the ball and did a 360-jam. But, this dunk took too many tries and brought down Robinson's score.

Dwight Howard, the 6'11" power forward for the Orlando Magic, did not make it to the final round, but still had one of the most impressive dunks in the contest. His less than perfect score of 42 showed that tall players are not respected in the slam dunk contest at all. While catching a high bounce pass from teammate Jameer Nelson for a right-handed slam, Howard reached nearly to the top of the backboard to slap a sticker bearing his face onto the glass. Using a tape measure, Nelson calculated the sticker to be 12'6" off the ground.

Tyrus Thomas of the Chicago Bulls was a disappointment. None of his dunks were innovative or even in the same league as those of the other participants. But with all fairness to Thomas, this year's dunk contest was difficult to compete in because it was one of the best that there has been.

Of all the events that took place this All-Star weekend, the slam dunk contest was the most engagin and exciting. The dunks were innovative and nearly incomprehensible. And, on top of that, the Boston Celtics, who had lost 18 consecutive games before beating the Milwaukee Bucks on Feb. 14, were finally able to win something.

Tufts Jumbos jump over Panthers

By Andrew Donnantuono
STAFF WRITER

The women's basketball team was eliminated from the NESCAC Tournament on Saturday, Feb. 17, when it lost at Tufts 65-50. It was a tough end of the season for the Panthers, who lost nine of their final 12 games to finish with a 12-13 record.

Against the Jumbos, though, the Panthers did not go down without a fight. Middlebury was looking for revenge, as Tufts had already treated them to a 61-50 loss on Feb. 2. The Jumbos held a slight advantage during the first half, but led Middlebury by no more than seven points over the first twenty minutes of play. Emily Johnson '09 did her best to give the team a spark as the game headed towards intermission, when she drained a three-pointer with ten seconds remaining to get Middlebury within three at 31-28. However, Tufts maintained its composure as Junior super sub Khalilah Ummah (15 points, six rebounds) laid it in to beat the buzzer.

Middlebury	50
Williams	65

While the Jumbos made a tidy 16 of 32 on the afternoon, the Panthers hit eight of their 26 shots for a 30.8 percent clip — slightly lower than their 35.6 percent season average. Nevertheless, Ashley Barron '09 asserted that she and her teammates were unfazed by a poor start from the field because although they are, "a team that only shoots 30 percent quite a bit, we don't let that bother us. Our tenacious defense makes up for it on the other end." Tenacious they were: Middlebury managed nine steals — five thanks to Johnson — and they matched Tufts' 39 total rebounds.

Maybe the Panthers would have felt better about their position had they been down just three at halftime, but Ummah's shot hardly proved debilitating. The second half never got away from Middlebury,

yet the Panthers failed to pose a legitimate threat to the second-seeded Jumbos. Middlebury was down by as few as four points with 12:46 remaining and as many as 11 points with 10:10 remaining. From that moment forward Middlebury did their best to turn the tide, but Tufts had too many offensive weapons and too much defensive prowess. The game fizzled away, and Barron contended that even though the Panthers, "had the game within five points for 35 minutes," they had little choice but "to foul in the end, giving up a bunch of easy points on free throws." It did not help that Middlebury missed its last ten shots from the field.

Against Tufts, Middlebury was inferior in nearly every statistical category. The Jumbos made more shots (26 to 16), had more steals (12 to nine) and more blocks (six to three) and committed fewer turnovers (15 to 19). Senior Laura Jasinski was great for the Jumbos, leading them in points (17), minutes (34), rebounds (nine) and steals (four). For the Panthers, Johnson played all forty minutes, setting the pace with 13 points and nine rebounds.

Middlebury is looking at the loss in a positive light. While Barron said that a quarterfinal defeat was not what Middlebury had hoped for, she felt that if the Panthers, "come back next year with the same level of improvement we had over last season, we'll be hosting our own playoff game in Pepin Gymnasium." With all five of its starters to return for the '07-'08 campaign and a first-year class that showed signs of promise, Middlebury has good reason to be optimistic about the future of its women's basketball team.

"There will be some great leadership coming from the three juniors who will be returning as seniors next year," said Co-Captain Carlie Harrington '07. "The sophomore class has a lot of talent and is only going to get better."



By Jeff Patterson, Sports Editor

35-0

Total score of the last five women's hockey games between Middlebury and Trinity after the Panthers beat the Bantams 8-0 on Feb 16.

16

Consecutive free-throws made by women's forward Carlie Harrington '07. She will graduate not having missed a free-throw since Jan. 4 of her senior year.

22

Jersey number worn by Harrington, as well as hockey players Margaret MacDonald '08 and Yev Saidachev '07 and men's basketball player Tim Edwards '09.5.

22

Total points scored by Harrington (three points), MacDonald, Saidachev (one goal) and Edwards (eighteen points) on Saturday in their respective sports.

16:22

Time it took after the opening face-off for Scott Bartlett '08 to record a natural hat trick against Hamilton on Feb. 16.

16:23

Time it takes me to take a shower.



Jeff Patterson

Kaitlyn Fallon '10 and the Midd women could not score enough to advance.

Squash trips at tourney

By Simon Keyes
SPORTS EDITOR

The Middlebury women's squash team was unable to repeat their promising NESCAC Tournament performance at this weekend's Nationals. Even with the return of two recently graduated Senior Febs, the women's team suffered multiple defeats. The Panthers were competing in the Kurtz Cup, or the B Division of Nationals, a tournament reserved for the teams ranked ninth to 16th. After losing matches to Bowdoin, Colby, and later beating Hamilton in their last match, the team finished with a 12-7 record.

On Friday, the Panthers' first match against 11th ranked Bowdoin was a rematch of the first round of the NESCAC tournament. Only a week before, Bowdoin narrowly escaped with a 5-4 victory. All signs pointed to yet another exciting day of squash.

The signs were misleading however, as the Panthers stumbled through the first round match, failing to win a single match, as they lost 9-0 to the Polar Bears. It was a puzzling and frustrating first day.

Avery Tilney '09, Caroline Woodworth '09, and Elisabeth McMorris '9.5, each lost heartbreaking five game matches at the three, four, and five slots.

On Saturday, Middlebury's schedule would not relent as the women set to square off against a dangerous Colby team. The squads split the season series 1-1, with each team squeaking out 5-4 victories. After Saturday, however, the Colby Mules would own the season series after kicking the Panthers out of the courts with yet another thrilling 5-4 decision.

Senior Co-Captain Hannah Baker, playing at the one slot, and

McMorris, playing at five, each won their matches 3-1. The other winners, Co-Captain Kara Zarchin '06.5, and Brooke Beatt '10 both refused to surrender a game, soundly earning 3-0 victories.

The results of the two matches were rather unlucky as all the individual games were still tight contests. "Our record this past weekend does not reflect the level of competitiveness and energy we brought to the tournament," said Zarchin. "Each match was a battle and, unfortunately, against Colby we didn't walk away with the win."

The two losses landed Middlebury in the 15th and 16th place play-off match against Hamilton. This was the first meeting between the two teams as their regular season match was whitewashed by snowfall in the upstate New York area.

Middlebury salvaged their weekend and made up for their earlier struggles by edging the Continentals 5-4. The upper tier of the ladder proved too strong for Hamilton and five of the top-six ladder spots earned wins.

The Panthers' Baker and McMorris played to 2-1 records, best on the team over the weekend.

The results at the Kurtz Cup are by no means indicative of the major progress made this season by the squad. "For the first time this year, we proved that we're contenders against teams like Bowdoin and Bates," said Zarchin. "The team is only going to get stronger over the next few years under the dynamic leadership of Coach Mike Morgan."

On another note, the squash season is not over for Baker and Sally Hatfield '09, who both qualified for the Individual Nationals Tournament, which takes place March 2 and 3 at the University of Pennsylvania.



Jeff Patterson

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

Tom Maldonado drops his gloves and talks to The Campus

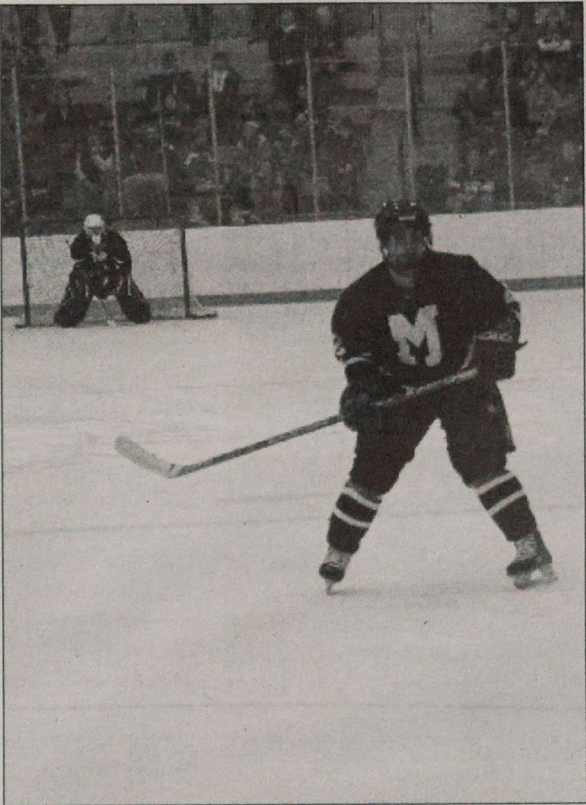
By Brooke Farquhar
SPORTS EDITOR

Tom Maldonado '08 could be called the Cal Ripken, Jr. of the Men's Hockey team. Although he wears a white no. 2 and not a black no. 8, with 84 consecutive starts, Maldonado's record is hot and shows no signs of dwindling. In the 24 games played so far this season, Maldonado assisted 22 goals and holds the second highest number of points on the team with 23.

When not playing hockey, Maldonado is studying psychology, cleaning his room or rocking out to David Lee Murphy's "Dust on the Bottle." Goalies Doug Raeder '09 and Ross Cherry '08 have plenty of dust on their waterbottles as a result of Maldo's solid defensive play.

The junior out of the Taft School in Watertown, Conn. has acquired quite a following since beginning his college career. Ask anyone in Middlebury who no. 2 is on the men's hockey team, and they'll tell you, "Maldonado." The same goes for no. 23 Rob MacIntyre '08 and no. 10 Mickey Gilchrist '08. At Kenyon these guys are familiar to everyone, but how well do they know each other?

As both teammates and roommates of Maldonado, MacIntyre and Gilchrist share an equally personal relationship, both on the ice and in their Atwater suite. MacIntyre has the advantage of playing side by side with Maldonado on the defensive line, but will the combination of his knowledge of Maldonado and his defensive skills be able to hold off Gilchrist?



Tom Maldonado '08 leads the team with 22 assists this year.

Sam Yoo

Offense vs. Defense

	Maldonado	MacIntyre	Gilchrist
The Mighty Ducks or Miracle?	Miracle	The Mighty Ducks (0)	Miracle (1)
What's your go-to Karaoke Revolution song?	"Beat It" by Michael Jackson	"Leave (Get Out)" by Jo-Jo (0)	"Suds in the Bucket" (0)
What is your favorite class so far at Middlebury?	Beginning Acting	Body and Earth (0)	Beginning Acting (1)
What is your favorite Disney movie?	Aladdin	Aladdin (1)	The Little Mermaid (0)
Wayne Gretzky or Mario Lemieux?	Gretzky	Lemieux (0)	Gretzky (1)
Who is the player with the most penalty minutes?	Mickey	Mickey (1)	Sam Driver. (0)
Who would play you if your life were made into a movie?	Adam Sandler	Danny DeVito (0)	Robert De Niro (0)
final score...		2	3

Gilchrist slid by MacIntyre in a narrow 3-2 win. It appears that MacIntyre's edge of knowing Maldonado as a fellow defenseman did not detain Gilchrist from the win. Gilchrist's time on the power-play with Maldonado seems to have been well spent.

While Gilchrist knew Maldonado's favorite class so far at Middlebury was Beginning Acting, neither he nor MacIntyre matched

Maldonado's answer of who would play him if his life were made into a movie. And Mickey did not know his Disney, as least when it comes to Maldo's preference of Aladdin. Both Gilchrist and MacIntyre underestimated Maldonado's love for hockey, responding that Maldonado's favorite summer sport was softball. Maldonado answered, "Does summer hockey count?"

When asked how many min-

utes before morning practice he wakes up, Maldonado overwhelmed Gilchrist and MacIntyre's answers of 60 and 30 minutes, respectively, with a whopping 90 minutes. Does this man ever sleep? As reflected in his record of consecutive starts, certainly not through games.

Saturday at 4 p.m. Maldonado, MacIntyre and Gilchrist will lead the no. 2 Panthers against no. 7 Williams in the NESCAC quarterfinal.

sportsbriefs

by David Infante

Broomball is back despite blizzard

This semester Middlebury's most popular intramural sport makes its triumphant return to the frozen pitch outside McCullough Student Center after several lackluster winters. Broomball is back at Midd, and despite the recent snow it looks like the ice will soon be clear for competition again.

Bob Smith, Director of Intramurals, hopes to have the ice devoid of snow and ready for competition as soon as possible, realizing that Mother Nature could make things difficult for the broomball faithful. "You never know how much time we have left with the cold and thawing," he warns.

The ice has been created and maintained by a ground crew from facilities management, who spent several early mornings last month working to freeze the quad outside the student center for the competition. As for the sport, Smith attributes its vast popularity in part to the fact that, "the ice seems to neutralize size, speed and strength so that anyone can compete at the same time."

This year, on top of the luck the crew has had with the weather, teams will get an additional treat. The league is making available "top of the line and official broomball equipment this year," made possible by the donation of a fund in the name of the late Peter Westra '99, a former commissioner and broomball enthusiast. In addition to the teams in the contest, broomball draws spectators due to its central location on campus and its intriguing game play. One can only hope the weather smiles on broomball players for the next few weeks.

Hockey comes up huge on the road

The men's hockey team finished regular season play on a high note this past Saturday with a decisive win over the Amherst Lord Jeffs. With the 6-2 verdict over the Jeffs, the Panthers conclude the regular season on a four-game winning streak.

The Panthers scored goals in every period of play, with Mickey Gilchrist '08 and Brett Shirreffs '07 drawing first blood in the first with a couple of goals in close succession. Though they entered the second period with a 2-0 lead, Middlebury allowed the Jeffs to tie the score at 2-2 until the Panthers' Jack Kinder '09 beat Amherst's goalie, Josh Fillman, for the game-winner with about seven minutes left in the second period. From there, Midd kept pouring it on, with a tally from Samuel Driver '08 at the 16-minute mark in the second and Evgeny Saidachev '07 and John Sullivan '09 contributing goals in the third. Middlebury's Doug Raeder '09 was solid between the pipes, turning aside twenty-three shots for the win.

The Panthers finished the season tied with Bowdoin for first place in the NESCAC, but will enter the Tournament as a second seed against seventh-seeded Williams by virtue of a tiebreaker. Middlebury will host the Ephs squad at 4:00 PM on February 24th in Kenyon Arena.



Sam Yoo

Sam Driver '08 scored his sixth goal of the season in a 6-2 win over Amherst.

Harris '08 an Academic All-American

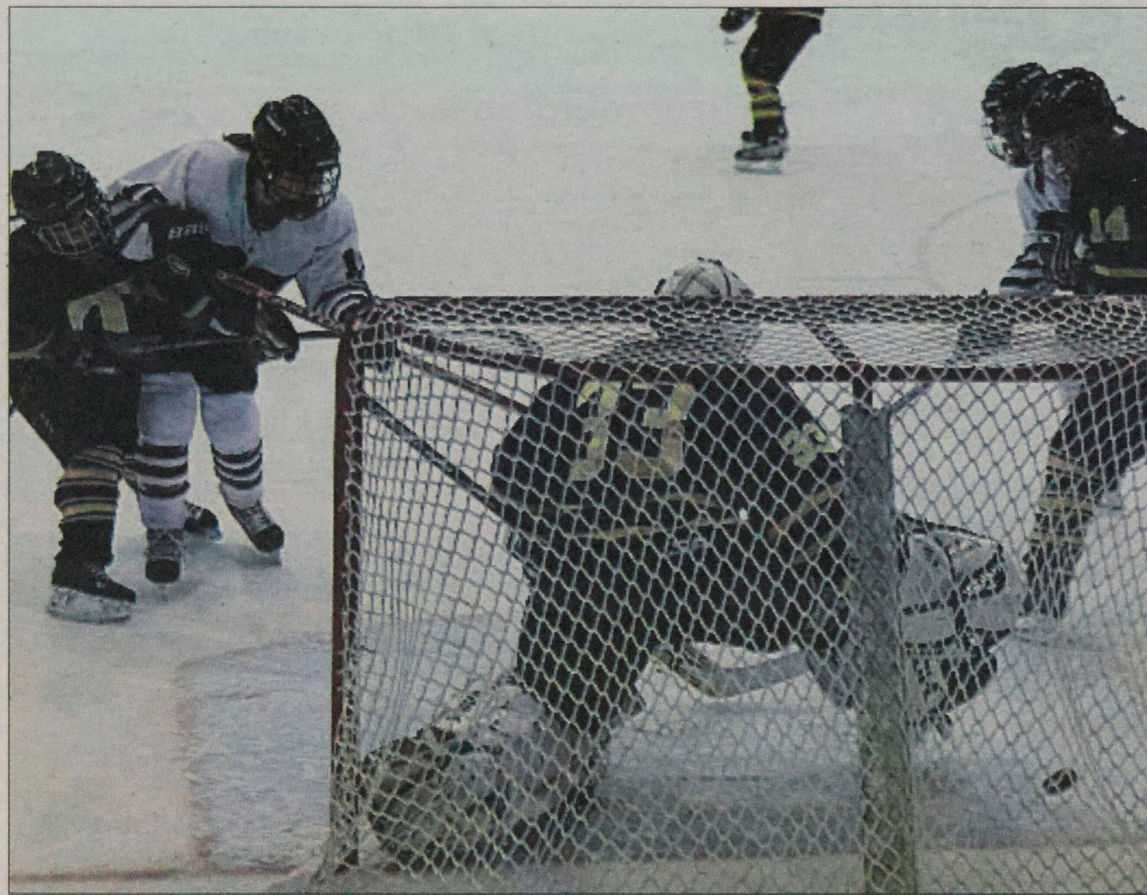
Middlebury's own Andrew Harris '08 was recently selected as a District 1 Academic All-American. The College Sports Information Directors Association assembles the All-American team, which will be selected by a national ballot on February 28th. A student-athlete is eligible for the prestigious honor if he or she has a cumulative GPA exceeding 3.20 and serves as a starter or an important reserve for his or her team.

Entering the spring term Harris, a junior molecular biology/biochemistry major, has a 3.88 cumulative GPA, and his numbers on the court are just as impressive. Harris averaged 13.4 points per game for the Panthers and netted a team-leading sixty-seven three-pointers for a strong .456 shooting percentage from three point range and an overall clip of .419.

In Middlebury's final game of the season, Harris put in a solid performance with 21 points, nine boards and an assist despite eventually falling to the Colby Mules in overtime.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Result	Comments
Feb. 17	W. Basketball	Tufts	65-50 L	Emily Johnson '09 leads Panthers with 13 pnts and nine rebounds.
Feb. 17	M. Basketball	Colby	91-79 OT L	Andrew Harris '08 had 21 points and grabbed nine rebounds in the loss.
Feb. 16 Feb. 17	W. Hockey	Trinity Hamilton	8-0 W 7-1 W	Shannon Sylvester '07 recorded her 100th career point on Saturday.
Feb. 16 Feb. 17	M. Hockey	Hamilton Amherst	7-4 W 6-2 W	The Panthers end the NESCAC regular season in a first place tie with Bowdoin.
Feb. 16-18	W. Swimming	NESCACs	3rd	Unfortunately, Middlebury could not beat Williams a second time this year.
Feb. 16-17	Skiing	Williams Carnival	3rd	Dorothy Muirhead '08 finished second in the GS, as did Andrew Wagner '09.



Jeff Patterson

Annemarie Cellino '09 scores her second goal of the game in an 8-0 win over the Trinity Bantams in Kenyon Arena.

Seniors shine on Senior Night

By Seth Miran
STAFF WRITER

Ninety-six wins, ten losses and three ties – that was the career record of the seniors on this year's women's hockey team heading into their final NESCAC regular season contest on Saturday, Feb. 18. When you add their two NESCAC championships and three NCAA titles, you have an impressive résumé.

The Panthers padded that prestigious résumé with an emphatic 7-1 victory over Hamilton on Saturday.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

FRIDAY, FEB. 16

Middlebury	8
Trinity	0

SATURDAY, FEB. 17

Middlebury	7
Hamilton	1

Senior Emily McNamara began the scoring on Senior Night a mere five minutes into the first period, firing a wrist shot into the top right corner. But Hamilton's Jodi Raymond tied the game at one 3:41 later.

Middlebury captain Shannon Sylvester '07 struck back less than a minute later with a goal of her own. The goal was Sylvester's 100th point of her storied Middlebury career.

The senior class continued to shine in the second period. Alison Graddock '07 slid a nice pass to Jess Bennett '10 in front of the crease for the Panthers' third goal. Sylvester notched her second goal of the game just four minutes later on the power play from a similar spot.

Erika Nakamura '09 closed out the scoring in the second frame, sliding the puck past Hamilton keeper Kathryn Manning on a breakaway.

Karen Levin '08 and Shannon Tarrant '07 each added a goal in the third period to pad the Panther lead. That lead proved to be more than enough for goalie Angie Todd '08, who made 21 saves in the victory.

The win was bittersweet given

the emotions surrounding Senior Night, especially with so many family members in attendance. Five seniors from the 2003-2004 women's hockey team, when the current seniors were first-years, were also in attendance, adding to the night's sentimentality.

"It was obviously sad to realize that our last season here is starting to wind down, but we try not to get too caught up in all of that just yet," said senior Abby Kurtz-Phelan '07. "We hope to still have plenty of hockey ahead of us this season and plan to enjoy it for as long as we can."

Before hammering Hamilton, the Middlebury seniors earned win number 96 of their careers in similarly emphatic fashion with an 8-0 shutout of Trinity.

Kurtz-Phelan opened the scoring 35 seconds into the first period with Sylvester and Tarrant assisting on it. Annemarie Cellino '09 put the Panthers ahead 2-0 six minutes later.

After almost twenty-eight minutes of scoreless play, the Panthers went on a tear at the close of the second frame. Randi Dumont '09 beat Bantam keeper Helen McCarthy glove side with a beautiful shot into the top right corner of the net. Cellino notched her second goal of the game less than two minutes later. Then, with one second remaining in the period, Sylvester slammed the puck home to extend the lead to 5-0.

Dumont added her second goal of the game midway through the third period. Marjie Billings '10 made it a 7-0 contest with her first career collegiate goal. Ashley Bairos '10 scored the Panthers' eighth and final goal of the game with 46 seconds remaining.

Lani Wright '10 earned the shutout with 13 stops. Sylvester led the way with a goal and four assists.

Fittingly, every Middlebury senior notched at least one point this weekend. The seniors now look to win the third NESCAC champion-

ship of their careers when they host the NESCAC tournament as the number-one seed on March 3 and 4.

"With the regular season over, our accomplishments to this point do not matter," said Sylvester. "We need to look at the playoffs as a new season. The slate has been wiped clean. That being said, we need to continue to do the things that got us to this point: work hard, stay focused and play as a team."

Panthers ousted in overtime



Wil Hyatt '07 and the Panthers appeared like they would beat Colby. But towards the end of the game no one could watch.

By Jeff Klein
STAFF WRITER

In basketball, momentum is crucial, and sometimes a game's outcome is determined simply by which team is able to string together a better run at the end.

That was certainly the case in Middlebury's NESCAC quarterfinal game, in which the Panthers ended their 2006-2007 campaign with a heartbreaking overtime loss at the hands of Colby, 91-79. In defeating Middlebury, the Mules avenged their loss to the Panthers at Pepin Gymnasium earlier in the regular season.

Despite the fact that Middlebury played brilliantly in stretches, the

men were unable to garner the type of consistency necessary in playoff games. Most importantly, however, the Panthers were unable to execute down the stretch.

"It was a game of runs," said Aaron Smith '09. "We just made mistakes down the stretch, and they hit their shots and free throws and used their momentum in overtime."

The game was a see-saw affair for much of the afternoon. After the opening tip-off, Colby immediately grabbed the momentum by opening up a quick 11-2 lead while the Panthers struggled to find the basket. The Middlebury faithful, fired up at the game's outset and looking for any

possible chance to scream their lungs out, was left anxiously subdued as the Colby lead grew to 21-10 at the 12:48 mark.

Their suffering was short-lived. Down by nine points at the 9:48 mark, the Panthers responded with a 12-0 spurt to grab a 26-23 lead, sending the packed student section into an absolute frenzy. Neither team could open up a sizeable advantage for the rest of the first half, and Middlebury headed into the intermission holding a three-point lead, 37-34.

The second half could not have started any better for the Panthers.

SEE BASKETBALL SEES, PAGE 21

Track team too tiny to win

By Livingston Burgess
STAFF WRITER

Coach Martin Beatty led eight women and six men into Lewiston, Maine for the Division III New England Championships, where, despite not contending for any team honors, strong individual performances were in no short supply.

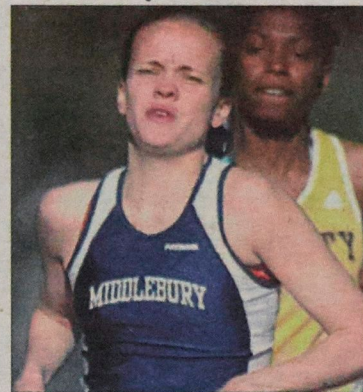
The women's side was highlighted by the multi-event performances of two underclassmen, both of whom combined for 19 of Middlebury's 30 team points. Anjuli Demers '10 sprinted to second place in the 200-meter dash, beating out three close competitors all within a tenth of a second of her 26.60 seconds. Demers also picked up third place honors in the 400-meter dash. She was one of only four women to break the minute mark with her 59.18.

Jen Brenes '09 took .13 seconds off her preliminary time in the 55 meter hurdles to garner fourth place. Her final time was 8.64. She also competed in the long jump. Despite fouling twice, her clean jump yielded a distance of 4.5 meters.

The two seniors at the meet both ran middle distances, with Beth Butler '07 racing to second place in the 800-meter and Kara Plunkett '07 finishing 18th in the 1000. Butler's time was 2:18.71, Plunkett's was 3:10.12.

In team scoring, Midd was ninth out of 21 teams, posting 30 points. Perennial powerhouse Williams won seven events and the meet with 151 points, 42 points ahead of Tufts.

The Middlebury men entered three events at the meet. Pat Sedney '08 was 12th in the pole vault with a jump of 3.81 meters. Adam Haggerty of Southern Maine posted the high



Courtesy

Beth Butler '07 was second in the 800.

for the day with his 4.57-meters.

Midd's distance medley A team was ninth after running the 400-meter, 800-meter, 1200-meter and 1600-meter legs in 10:53.59. They came in on the heels of Tufts in a tight battle for the final scoring slot, but missed it by about four seconds. MIT posted a 10:32.63 to win the event.

Captain Pascal Losambe '07 delivered the men's only points of the day in the shot put, beating out Springfield's Dan Hall to place eighth with a throw of 14.31 meters. Hall's teammate Alex Kampersal's winning mark was 15.48 meters. On the men's side, just like with the women, Williams was the team to beat in nearly every event, and they were victorious with 152 points. Tufts followed with 103.

Middlebury will next compete in the Open New England Championships at Boston University. Their sights, however, are firmly set a little further down the road, on the NESCAC outdoor championships they will host on April 28. Beatty has made it clear since the start of the season that the team's competition goals essentially boil down to that meet.

this week in sports

Inside the Locker Room:
Tom Maldonado
Who knows the junior defenseman better? page 23



what to watch

Winter Carnival Skiing Events, Feb. 23-24
Men's Hockey vs. Williams, Feb. 24 at 4:00



Winter Carnival Week:
Come out and cheer. At least ring your cow bell, page 20